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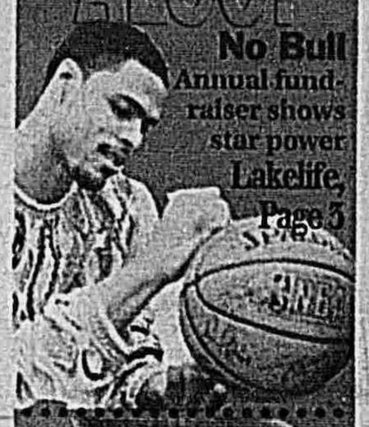
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March 15-18, 2004

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WHAT'S INSIDE

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ELECTION 2004
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•U.S. CONGRESS•
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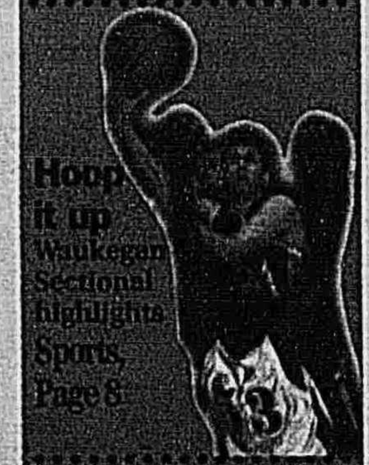
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Lake County residents who will be volunteering as ballot box judges for the March 16 primary listen to instructions for the big day during a workshop at the Warren Township Center.—*Photo by Sandy Bressner*

Your vote counts

New tallying methods help make for a truer vote count

By CAREL SCHMIDLKOFER
carels@lakelandmedia.com

It seems like only a short while ago punch card voting was the only way to go. In terms of the voting cycle it does seem like it was only yesterday that Lake County made the switch to the optical scan system.

For those who voted in the last presidential election, it was a new experience using the optical scan process, but one that most agree is an improvement over punch cards.

Lake County Clerk Willard Helander was the driving force behind bringing the optical scan ballots to the county.

Helander recalled how as early as 1996, she had conducted a study in the hopes of replacing what she called the "antiquated" and "labor intensive" punch card ballot system with something easier for voters and employees of the County Clerk's office.



'We have voters that recognize we cared and we were on top of the problem before it happened'

Willard Helander
Lake County Clerk

It turned out to be a long and laborious process implementing the system into the county, in large part due to the county board's reluctance at the time to make a change.

"The argument was that we didn't need it, it was just a toy," Helander said. "I said we'll keep it and when it gets to critical mass, we'll come back."

Helander cited the extremely tight timeline involved with the punch-card process that was further encumbered by the testing of the punch cards when they arrived at the precincts.

"We had to have things ready for early voting and when you get punch card ballots into the precinct - hundreds of thousands—we have to look at each one to make sure that the security codes at the bottom are correct," she said.

The pages had to be

Please see **VOTE** */4*

WHERE TO VOTE

ELECTION 2004

ANTIOCH TOWNSHIP

Polling place	Address	Precincts
Antioch Upper Grade School	800 Highview Dr. Antioch	001, 002, 003, 004
Antioch Elementary School	817 N. Main St. Antioch	005,006, 007
Emmons School	24226 W. Beach Grove Rd. Antioch	008, 012, 013
Antioch Comm. High School	1133 Main St. Antioch	009, 010, 011
Antioch Golf Club	40150 N. Route 59 Antioch	014
Grass Lake School	26177 W. Grass Lake Rd. Antioch	015-16
Lutheran Church of All Saints	5800 State Park Rd. Fox Lake	017-18

LAKE VILLA TOWNSHIP

Polling place	Address	Precincts
Oakland Elementary School	22018 W. Grass Lake Rd. Antioch	158, 159, 160

Don't know your precinct?
Call the Lake County Clerk's office at 847-377-2400, or go to www.co.lake.il.us/cntyclk
Polls are open from 6 a.m. to 7 p.m. on Election Day, March 16.

Blake, Dyer want Martini's county seat

By JULIE MURPHY
jmurphy@lakelandmedia.com

All three candidates hoping to become the republican candidate to serve District 1 on the Lake County board of directors—Incumbent Judy Martini (R-Antioch), Wayne Blake and Anita Merkel-Dyer—are long-time residents, who have a strong sense of civic duty with deeds to back their words and say they want what is best for the district.

All three are hoping to strengthen their positions with residents in District 1 as the election date nears.

Martini has picked up the endorsements of three village of Antioch trustees: Dorothy Larson, Scott Pierce and Mary Turner. All three endorsements came as the result of Martini's action when the Stormwater Management Commission (SMC) said it would forge forward with its proposal to the Federal Emergency Management Agency to dramatically increase the area of Antioch labeled floodplain, including most of the industrial park.

"She is the best choice for the village given the critical period we are going through," Pierce said. "She was effective when we need her to and, along with (Rep.) JoAnn Osmond (R-Antioch) stood up for us before SMC."

Larson concurred and added that she Martini had a record of doing what is best for the community.

Blake reiterated previous statements that he thinks it is time for a change.

"I want voters to ask themselves if they think they are better off now than they were 10 years ago," he said. "Unfortunately, I don't think we are in better shape. There are politics and policies that need changing, and we're ready for it."

Merkel-Dyer, who is endorsed by Mark Ring, Steve Smouse, Kevin Schoudel, Rich Coles and Jim Fields, said she was very happy to

Please see **DIST. 1** */14*

District 34 ready with scissors if referendum fails

By JULIE MURPHY
jmurphy@lakelandmedia.com

Superintendent John Hunt made it clear that the increase being sought with the Educational Fund referendum would do nothing more for Antioch Community Consolidated District 34 than to keep it status quo.

"I believe this is critical to our community," he said. "Even for residents who have no children, this is a big issue. Property values are linked to the school system that reflects on the strength of the community."

In 1989 voters approved an Educational Fund tax rate of $2.775, $.025 more than what the board hopes will be approved this spring. Because of Illinois' tax cap, the district has been unable to tax at the rate previously approved by voters and, in essence, has not received $9 million that it should have been able to collect.

The 1992 tax cap changed the rules so that the maximum that can be collected is either at the cost of living or 5 percent of a home's assessed value, whichever is less, leaving school districts unable to benefit from the full tax increase of that home.

District 34 is seeking a $.65 increase from its current taxation rate of $2.081 to $2.73.

According to Hunt, the taxes that go to the district from a $200,000 home only covers about 25 percent of the cost to educate one child. The proposed increase averages to about $18 per month for a home valued at $150,00 and $31 a month for a home valued at $250,000.

Hunt said the district would be $45,000 in the red at the end of this school year. Had the board of education not voted to cut a multitude of programs and reduce staff and services, that number would have jumped significantly.

If the referendum fails, $2 million will be cut from the 2004-05 school year, and an additional $1.4 million for the following year.

The board of education took positive action on the budget reduction committee's proposal that includes cutting

Please see **DIST. 34** */14*

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President

Crystal Lake Park Board

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Civic: Park Board - 11 yr 'Volunteer' previous CABA Baseball Board & Boy Scout Merit Badge Counselor

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YES to Safe, FDA/Canadian Drugs
Tighten Borders/Immigration
Strong NO to Assault Weapons!
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"As an *11-year elected official with the Crystal Lake Park District I successfully* worked to *decrease* our tax rate. I *never* voted for a tax increase, and as your Congressman, I will honor the same commitment to lower or eliminate federal taxes, and work with Illinois officials toward local property tax reform. Please give me the opportunity to give you the 100% accountable, effective representation that you deserve!"

Sincerely, David W. Phelps, Republican Candidate for US Congress D-8

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Daily Herald

"Our endorsement goes to... Park Board President David W. Phelps, a modern day 'Mr. Chips'... We agree with his basic **honesty and his clear commitment** to ethics in government. We also believe he would be **responsive to his constituency** and in particular, **we appreciate his focus on jobs.**"



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"Your Voice" In Lake County Government

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- **Retain** and Expand Lake County's Business Community

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www.amdyer.com

Dear Friend,

As a public official, I have worked very hard to serve the tax-paying community. In the March 16th primary **I am voting** for **Anita Merkel Dyer**, Republican Candidate for Lake County Board District 1. I hope you will join me and cast your vote for Anita. Anita cares about District 1 and will prove to be dedicated, hard working and honest. Use your vote to effect county government.
PLEASE VOTE!!

Sincerely,
Mark Ring
Antioch Township Highway Commissioner

Dear Friend,

I am endorsing **Anita Merkel Dyer** Republican Candidate for Lake County Board District 1 in the March 16th election. It is important to recognize and support the people that can make a difference in our community. Anita understands the dynamics of District 1 as it relates to our local businesses, townships, villages, schools, community groups and the county. For those of us that know Anita, her reputation speaks for itself. I know Anita will represent **"all the people of District 1."**

Respectfully,
Steve Smouse
Antioch Township Supervisor

Dear Supporter,

Thank you for your support during the last election. Due to family obligations, I am not running for county board this election. I am writing to ask that your support and **vote** go to **Anita Merkel Dyer** Candidate for Lake County Board. As a close family friend I have known for most of my life, I know Anita will do an outstanding job if given the opportunity to serve the residents of District 1. **Let's Make a Difference.**

Thank you,
Kevin Schoudel
Antioch Township Trustee

Dear Friend,

I would like to ask you to **vote** for **Anita Merkel Dyer**, Republican candidate - Lake County Board District 1 in the March 16th primary. As the former Chairman of "Lakes Region Youth Baseball", I have dealt with scores of individuals and organizations on a variety of issues that have impacted our community. I know that Anita is the one that will help us take our community to the next level with her willingness to listen and understand our requirements and the ability to **get things done!**

Best regards,
Rich Coles

MARCH 16TH

RE-ELECT

YOUR LAKE COUNTY BOARD REPRESENTATIVE

BONNIE THOMSON CARTER

VOTE REPUBLICAN

CARTER OVERWHELMINGLY ENDORSED FOR THE LAKE COUNTY BOARD!

LAKELAND NEWSPAPERS Jim Farrell, a political newcomer, is campaigning to unseat incumbent County Board Rep. **Bonnie Thomson Carter** on the premise that county government is to blame for every public aliment being faced in Lake County. He doesn't know what he's talking about. Farrell, genial and ambitious, is running for the wrong office, at the wrong time, for the wrong reasons. **Carter**, seeking a third term, has worked tirelessly to enable the public to cope with the problems brought on by overbuilding, disregard for the environment and infrastructure needs created by careless or unknowing municipal officials. On the basis of her energy and intelligent well thought out responses to planning and growth problems, **Carter** richly deserves to be returned to her County Board office. In addition, she has served capably as president of the Lake County Forest Preserve for two-years under terms of the statutes were County Board members automatically serve as Forest Preserve commissioners. **Carter's** leadership abilities have been best tested in how she has handled the touchy and complicated provisions for adding another Forest Preserve Golf Course at Fort Sheridan. She has displayed an ability to handle the tough jobs and make the right decisions. **Carter** wins our endorsement. *March 11, 2004*

The NewsSun Forest Preserve District Chairman **Bonnie Thomson Carter** of Ingleside receives our unqualified endorsement for renomination over newcomer James Farrell of Round Lake. **Carter** has a solid record of accomplishment in her eight years on the County Board and isn't afraid to fight overdevelopment in a district feeling increasing developmental pressures. She has supported open space purchases in the district and battled to increase school impact fees. District voters are fortunate to have a public servant of **Carter's** caliber. *March 9, 2004*

Chicago Tribune Incumbent **Bonnie Thomson Carter** should be able to fend off a challenge..... **Carter** has a keen understanding of the issues squeezing the county, including runaway housing construction and pressure on property taxes. *March 6, 2004*

Daily Herald endorses **Carter** for the GOP nomination because of her experience in county government and her leadership role on the forest preserve board. *March 4, 2004*

I feel privileged and honored to serve you!

Bonnie



Forest Preserve President 2002 to present
Chair, Public Works and Transportation
Chair, Law and Judicial

A PROVEN RECORD WITH RESULTS!!!

Paid for by Bonnie Thomson Carter Committee. A copy of my report is available from the County Clerk, 18 County Street, Waukegan, IL 60085

Salazar says no to 'Churchillian politics'

By JEFF ZACHARY
jzachary@lakelandmedia.com

Depending on which candidate you talk to—it's either time to end negative campaigning in State Representative District 62, or it's time for an end to 'Churchillian politics'.


Salazar


Churchill

District 62 runs from Gurnee west to the Fox Lake-Ingleside area and takes in most of the Round Lake area, Grayslake, portions of Warren Township, Third Lake, Hainesville and parts of Lake Villa.

The incumbent is State Rep. Bob Churchill (R-Hainesville).

"For the good of Lake County, for the good of the residents in District 62, and for the good of the State of Illinois, it's time to get rid of Bob Churchill and his 'Churchillian' politics," said candidate Fernando Salazar.

"Churchill's voting record is horrible and deplorable. It's time we Republicans clean out our own closets before the Democrats do in the general election," Salazar added.

However, Churchill said that Salazar has no convictions and is just running a dirty and negative campaign.

"When I started in politics, I was told that people did not want dirty, negative campaigning. They wanted candidates who would say what they believed and how they would help people. And that is what I have done for 18 years. I have never publicly said anything negative about my opponent. (But) In all my years representing the people of Lake County, I have never received such a dirty, negative attack," Churchill said.

Churchill was referring to a series of mailings by a group called the "Friends of Salazar" that have been highly critical of his voting record.

"These mailings have been paid for by Chicago based Democrat organizations and they contain half-truths, misleading statements, outright lies and guilt by association," Churchill said. " (But) I will continue talking about the issues I know the people care about (like) controlling taxes, improving transportation, protecting wetlands, and increasing access to affordable medicines."

Churchill added that the most important issue in the election now has become whether the people will approve of dirty and negative campaigning.

"If negative campaigning works, then you can expect that type of campaigning in all future elections," Churchill said.

Salazar said that Churchill's claims are way off base.

"The only thing negative in this campaign is Churchill's voting record," Salazar said. "If elected I will be a full time accessible state representative. Churchill is out touch with the residents of District 62."

Carter, Farrell vie in Dist. 5

By JEFF ZACHARY
jzachary@lakelandmedia.com

Grant Township Republican Precinct Committeeman Jim Farrell is hoping to pull off a major upset over incumbent District 5 Lake County Board member Bonnie Thomson Carter in the March 16 Republican primary.

And Farrell, has proved in the past that he can defeat popular candidates with his victory in the committeeman race two years ago over former Round Lake advocate Mike Thirtle, who, along with Carter, led the battle to keep a peaker power plant out of Round Lake.

District 5 covers Grant Township and almost all of Wauconda Township including Round Lake, Fox Lake, Wauconda, Volo and Lakemoor.

"It's time to end the politics of division in Lake County," Farrell said. "It's time to bring open space advocates and pro development advocates together for the good of everyone in Lake County."


Farrell

'It's time to end the politics of division in Lake County. It's time to bring open space advocates and pro development advocates togeter for the good of everyone in Lake County'

Jim Farrell

Farrell claims that new leadership is needed to see that the Route 53 extension is finally completed and that the 120 bypass is built. He also claims the county is not keeping up with development.

"During the last eight years District 5 has nearly doubled in size despite the promise of no new development. The county has failed to provide adequate infrastructure to handle this growth. We can do better," Farrell said.

Farrell would also like to see the Lake County Board restructured. "It's clear to me that Lake County does not receive its fair share from Springfield because we don't have an at large chairman."

'I have a proven track record of working with residents and homeowner associations to fight special interests.'

Bonnie Thomson Carter


Carter

On the other hand, Carter feels she is doing a great job as a county board representative.

"I have a proven track record of working with residents and homeowner associations to fight special interests. We have stood together on issues that effect their everyday lives," Carter said. 'We have teamed up to address issues of public health, safety and protection of our natural resources and education. Our portion of Lake County is faced with an unprecedented number of development-related issues. Working together, we have to find realistic, practical solutions. We can't stop change, but we have to ensure we can control it."

Carter added that if she is reelected she will continue to be a strong independent voice who is determined to live up to her constituents' expectations.

Three strikes would leave Dist. 36 out

By JULIE MURPHY
Staff Reporter

The March 16 primary election will mark the third time that Grass Lake School District 36 has gone to bat trying to get an Educational Fund Referendum approved to save the school. If the referendum fails again in its third and final attempt, the district has no recourse left except to increase class sizes to 40 pupils.

"We're not discussing cuts, because we've already cut everything," said Superintendent James Beveridge. "We don't have anything left except for reading, writing and arithmetic as it is."

Beveridge said the district, one campus that does its best to cater to the needs of about 250 children from pre-kindergarten through eighth grade, would be $20,000 in the red by the end of the year.

All sports, extracurricular activities, aides and school lunches have been cut. He said lunches are provided to students, but it's done completely outside of the school district to save the costs of the two employees who previously prepared and served food.

Additionally, Beveridge said there is no media specialist and that social worker services have been cut back to one day a week, and that the service is provided by SEDOL (Special Education District of Lake County).

Last week, officials from the state of Illinois met with Beveridge to discuss other options if the referendum fails. "Our only other two possibilities are consolidation with another district, or the state could come in and dissolve the district and move the students to other schools," he said. "They don't want to do that either, but we're different from Round Lake because we only have 240 students."

Beveridge said he wouldn't mind seeing District 36 consolidate with Emmons School District 33, but said he didn't think Emmons would be interested in making that change as it was able to get its referendum approved last year.

"Maybe it's something that could happen in couple of years, but I don't think it could now," he said. "Other school districts are pretty much in the same boat that we are, one that is sinking under water."

Last spring, the referendum failed by 26 votes. Beveridge attributes this failure to the fact that the election was held during spring break, something that is not a factor in this upcoming election.

The district is seeking a $.55 increase from its current taxation rate $1.99 to $2.54.

To keep the school afloat, the district has had to issue tax anticipation warrants that allows the school to draw on future taxes.

Beveridge said, "This is not a good way of doing things. Eventually, it all catches up."

He said the district only receives about $95,000 in state aid and while the state claims that only 80 percent of Grass Lake's funding is local, he believes his district is 94 percent locally funded.

"There seems to be a lot of enthusiasm with parents and teachers and students," he said. "If this passes, we will be viable for another year or two. The truth is we needed $350,000 three years ago. We don't have anything in the way of frills here, and we'll have to be careful about what programs we bring back."

FROM PAGE A1

VOTE

carels@lakelandmedia.com

It seems like only a short while ago punch card voting was the only way to go. In terms of the voting cycle it does seem like it was only yesterday that Lake County made the switch to the optical scan system.

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"The argument was that we didn't need it, it was just a toy," Helander said. "I said we'll keep it and when it gets to critical mass, we'll come back."

Helander cited the extremely tight timeline involved with the punch-card process that was further encumbered by the testing of the punch cards when they arrived at the precincts.

"We had to have things ready for early voting and when you get punch card ballots into the precinct - hundreds of thousands—we have to look at each one to make sure that the security codes at the bottom are correct," she said.

The pages had to be physically loaded into the vote recorder and double-checked to make sure the pages were printed correctly.

Helander's staff typically worked seven days a week for about two months with no overtime compensation to get the system ready for voters.

Looming on the horizon was the fact that that the current equipment

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Down to the wire in District 6

By JEFF ZACHARY
jzachary@lakelandmedia.com

Word on the street is that it's too close too call in the three-way fight for the Republican nomination for Lake County Board in District 6.

The three candidates are former Lake County Board Chairman Bob Depke, 75, Grayslake businessman Bryan Gutraj, 28, and former Lake County Board member Larry Leafblad, 61.

District 6 includes parts of Round Lake, Round Lake Park, Grayslake, Gurnee and Third Lake.

Leafblad said he is still angry about what he sees as some illegal politicking and has charged that Dr. Kurt Anderson, Superintendent of Consolidated School District 46 used school computers and school time to send a political email from Grayslake Mayor Tim Perry to teachers in the district endorsing Depke.

In a letter to Lakeland Media, Leafblad called it a "thinly veiled scheme of the Mayor, whose reputation for ruthlessness and lying is ruining the community feel we have in Grayslake."

In a telephone conversation, Leafblad acknowledged writing the letter and said, "I'm tired of people misrepresenting my views and saying that I'm against the Central Range Project. I was the first person for the Central Range Project. I was for it when Bob Depke was still in Florida," Leafblad said.

The Central Range is a proposed 900-acre commercial development in Grayslake near Alleghany Road and Route 83.

Gutraj said he is also in favor of the Central Range development but feels it is time for a new generation of leaders to come forward on the Lake County Board.

"I am running for office because of the problems of high taxes, crowded roads and lack of attention to our environment which have plagued this area for too long. My opponents have spent this campaign trading jabs and talking about what they did in 1960. I believe we need to focus on the future and discuss what this area will be like in the year 2060 and how to get us there," Gutraj said.

Depke said he is running for office because he loves Lake County but that there is currently no leadership in Lake County.

Depke said if elected he would again seek to be the Chairman of the Lake County Board and advance the construction of Route 53 and the widening of existing state and county roads.

Depke has picked up the endorsement of the Grayslake Mayor.

"Bob has always been a proponent of improving transportation and increasing the commercial tax base in Lake County," Perry said.

LAKE COUNTY

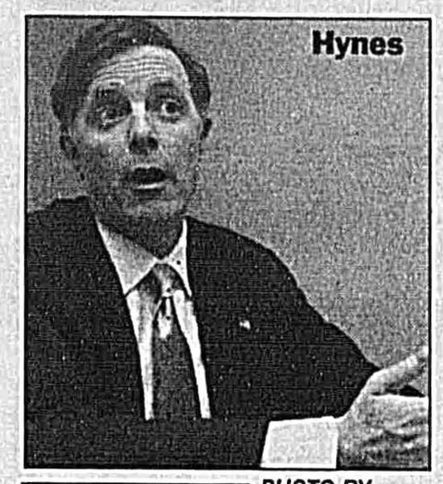
LAKELAND NEWSPAPERS

March 15-18, 2004

Senate hopefuls take last shots

Hynes, Obama, Hull leading polls, but others still hang on to campaigns

GOP candidates stress need to create jobs, Grayslake man still clings to senate bid


Hynes


Oberweis

PHOTO BY SANDY BRESSNER

PHOTO BY SANDY BRESSNER


Chico


Hull


Obama


Pappas


Skinner


Washington

Stories by Jeff Zachary • Staff Reporter

Of the 15 people wanting to be the next U.S. Senator from Illinois—seven of them are Democrats. "I have spent my entire adult life on the front lines of progressive causes. After working on environmental issues for 10 years, I went into radio because the left had no voice on talk radio," said Nancy Skinner.

"Against all odds, I changed that and am now the most widely-heard Democrat on radio in America. I decided to run for the Senate because the left has lost its voice in national politics. I intend to change that. What Democrats must realize is that Republicans have mastered the media and the message. We need a new breed of Democratic leaders with courage, big new bold ideas and most importantly, the ability to frame the debate and communicate the issues clearly to the American public," Skinner added.

One of the frontrunners in the race is Illinois Comptroller Dan Hynes. "If elected, my number one priority is to create jobs," Hynes said. "We have lost almost 200,000 jobs in Illinois. I have a detailed job plan that will create jobs and keep them in our country. My plan consists of investment in our infrastructure and making sure we put money into our roads, our schools, our hospitals and our health care facilities to the same extent that we are willing to invest in Iraq. I also want a national manufacturing policy, including a 'Made in America' tax credit that will keep jobs here instead of allowing them to move over seas," Hynes added.

Former Chicago School Board President Gery Chico said his campaign is going well.

"My campaign is going perfectly. People believe in our substance and they don't believe in the polls. What counts is my candidacy is one of substance and a track record of job creation, health care education, and foreign policy," Chico said. "Let's stabilize Iraq and bring our people home from Iraq as soon as we can," he added.

Millionaire businessman Blair Hull was the frontrunner for most of the campaign but news of his three divorces and his admission of striking his ex-wife in the chin have seen his numbers dip in the polls.

Cook County Treasurer Maria Pappas is also running in the race.

"I feel absolutely confident going into Tuesday's primary election. Voter want someone different. When I was first elected treasurer, I took over an office full of corruption and patronage. As a woman, I wasn't given much of a chance to turn that office around. Yet I stood my ground, cleaned up corruption and made that office responsive to people. I saved taxpayers millions of dollars so they could be invested in things that matter–schools, hospitals and communities," Pappas said.

She added, " That's what we need more of in Congress. If you're happy with the guys representing us in Washington – then vote for more of the same. But if you are looking for something different, for someone with the guts to stand up to the suits, then vote for me."

Other candidates include State Sen. Barack Obama, and a Chicago Health Care consultant Joyce Washington.

Many have answered the call but only one will be chosen in the March Republican primary. Grayslake resident and U.S. Army veteran Norm Hill is one of many Republican Senate candidates on the ballot.

The others are Jim Oberweis, owner of Oberweis Dairies; General John Borling, a retired U.S. Air Force Major General; Andrew McKenna, a business executive; Jack Ryan, a teacher; Dr. Chirinjeev Kathuria, a doctor and businessman; Steve Rauschenberger, a State Senator; and Jonathan Wright, an attorney and former state representative.

"One of my main goals as a U.S. Senator will be to eliminate personal property taxes for all senior citizens," Hill told a Lakeland Media reporter during an interview.

At one of many candidate forums in Lake County, Oberweis, Borling and McKenna told why they thought they should be elected senator.

"The other candidates like to talk about creating jobs but I am the only candidate who has created jobs," Oberweis said. "I also believe that illegal immigration is one of our most serious problems. It is costing our country $24 billion a year and it must be addressed," Oberweis added.

At the meeting, Borling said, "I will be a senator for the United States first and Illinois second. Senators don't create jobs but they create a climate for jobs. I am also the only pro-life Republican in the race."

Andy McKenna commented, "I believe in hard work, honesty and personal responsibility. I believe we need a tax code that encourages investment and creates jobs. We should begin by giving a tax credit to every small business that invests in a technology that creates a job."

Ryan, who was once the odds on favorite for the Republican nomination, has not attended many debates "because he doesn't like the free flow of ideas that occur at debates" said General Borling.

A member of McKenna's staff also said he thought that Ryan avoided debates because he could not think well on his feet.

Ryan's also well-publicized contentious divorce seems to also be hurting in the polls. Ryan has published information saying he would focus on creating jobs and keeping taxes low if elected.

One of the more interesting characters in the race for the senate is Kathuria, a member of the Sikh religion of India who proudly wears a turban.

On his Web site Kathuria wrote, "I have lived the American dream. My parents came to his country with little money yet I graduated from Downers Grove North and had the privilege of earning undergraduate and medical degrees from Brown and an MBA from Stanford. Any success that I have I achieved, I owe to the opportunities and freedoms that America has given me.

"That is why I want to represent the people of Illinois in the U.S. Senate to help them have the same opportunities I've had that they may have missed. "


Borling


Hill


Kathuria


McKenna


Rauschenberger


Ryan


Wright

Tax hike wanted to relieve traffic

By CAREL SCHMIDLKOFER
carels@lakelandmedia.com

Voters will be asked to support a 1/4-percent sales tax increase Tuesday to be used for new road improvements in the county.

The new tax would add an additional 25 cents in sales tax for every $100 spent in the county with the exception of food, medicine and items such as cars. State law exempts these items.

Residents already spend 25 cents in sales tax for every $100 spent on local goods.

The March referendum will cap a three-year effort to convince the governor, the state legislature and Lake County voters of the need to do something about traffic congestion.

County officials expect to raise an additional $15 million annually, which would more than double the existing transportation budget.

Money will be used to alleviate the county's traffic problems by widening existing roads and improving intersections along with any new transportation projects. Existing road projects won't benefit from the increase, but the revenue will benefit state and municipal roads.

"We're going to go where the problems are," said Suzi Schmidt (R-Lake Villa), Lake County board president. "Our projects are really going to be getting to the congested areas."

Officials hope to generate even more money by leveraging those dollars with state and federal funds and by paying off low-interest loans.

A separate account will be created for the sales tax revenue that can be tracked on the county's Web site by residents.

"You will be able to clearly track what was spent," said County Administrator Barry Burton.

"Everybody says they don't want a shell game. We set it up where you can't do that."

'Our quality of life in Lake County can be significantly improved with new funding for road construction'

Jo Ann Eckmann
Lake County Residents for Traffic Relief

An added benefit will be the increased number of jobs in the county resulting from the construction projects the sales tax money will support.

It is estimated that residents would pay an about $20 per year with the new tax, with about one third of the revenue generated coming from shoppers who do not live in Lake County.

The county considered research from Evanston-based Richard Day Research, Inc. which included a survey of 600 voters who had participated in recent elections.

With the biggest concern of voters polled being traffic congestion, 62 percent of those surveyed supported the increase to pay for road improvements.

Lake County Residents for Traffic Relief, formed to promote the referendum, has been busy giving presentations with Lake County board members for the past several weeks with its "Get Out The Vote" campaign.

"Our purpose is to educate the public to the issues and ask for their support," said Chairman Jo Ann Eckmann.

"Our quality of life in Lake County can be significantly improved with new funding for road construction," Eckmann said.

Chuck Bartels, who is treasurer of the organization, joins Eckmann, former president of Libertyville.

Supporters see the quarter-cent sales tax as an alternative to raising property or gasoline taxes to fund road improvements.

As a controlled tax, revenue will grow as the county grows. More information about the proposed sales tax can be found at the Lake County Residents for Traffic Relief's Web site at www.laketrafficrelief.com and the Lake County government Web site at www.co.lake.il.us.

Congress race shaping up

Crane hopes to keep undefeated streak alive in election bid vs. Phelps

Conservative Republican Eighth District U.S. Rep. Phil Crane (R-Wauconda) is facing a tough primary opponent in moderate Dave Phelps of Crystal Lake.

Unlike a lot of Republicans, Phelps is opposed to drilling for oil in Alaska and is a strong proponent of using renewable energy sources.

However he said, "I'm definitely a Republican. I am pro-life, and I am for less government spending."



Phelps



Crane

Phelps is critical of Crane's open trade policy that he says are costing jobs in Illinois.

"I will fight to keep American jobs on American soil," Phelps said.

With his wife Lori at his side, Phelps has run a hard campaign on a $50,000 budget going door to door to garner support.

Like Phelps, Crane is well known for his pro-life stance, and his support of traditional family values.

But he dismisses Phelps 'claim that free trade is costing jobs in Illinois.

"I am absolutely for free trade, 335,000 jobs in Illinois are the direct result of foreign investment in our home state of Illinois. And our Illinois exports generated 1.8 billion in tax revenue in 2002, and over 602,000 Illinois jobs are supported by our exports. One in eight Illinois jobs are dependent on international trade and 50 percent of manufacturing jobs in Illinois are dependent on international trade."

Crane added, "If re-elected to serve the people of the Eighth Congressional District, my priorities would be to continue my work to reduce their tax burden, limit the role of government in their daily lives, secure funding for district projects that support local jobs and regional infrastructure, protect and strengthen Medicare and Social Security and provide for their national security.

"The Fox River Water Management Agency has been an area of interest for me. Their sediment project is a worthy one and should be pursued for the benefit of all homes and businesses along the Fox River."

Bean counting on win against confident Scheurer

Although Melissa Bean is the heavy favorite in the race for the Democratic nomination for U.S. Representative in the Eighth District, her opponent is not giving up.

"The campaign is going great," said William Scheurer. "But it's really not about winning or losing. It's about standing up for what is right and what makes sense."



Bean



Scheurer

Scheurer is running on a platform of National Security through peace; requiring Congress to pass a balanced budget amendment and having a mandatory market-based Universal Health Care Coverage.

"My plan is to repeal all of the Bush tax cuts and recalibrate our national security spending. And the bottom line is that I am the only candidate calling for a balanced budget amendment."

His opponent, Bean, lost to Republican incumbent Phil Crane in the 2002 general election.

"I am running for Congress because the people of the Eighth District deserve a higher degree of attention and accountability than we are currently getting," Bean said. "Our families are entitled to proactive representation and effective stewardship of our tax dollars and natural resources. My experience in corporate management and as a consultant for high-tech companies drives my desire to hold Congressional leaders to a higher level of accountability and openness when it comes to their job performance. I think most people believe Congress should stop the reckless spending that is driving us deeper into debt and placing a great financial burden on our children. We must also end the influence of the special interests to which our Congressmen regularly cater."

Schild, Keller vie for chance at coroner

By STEVE PETERSON
speterson@lakelandmedia.com



Keller



Schild

Dr. Sophia Schild, of Mundelein, is seeking the Democratic nomination for Lake County Coroner. Her opponent, Richard Keller of Waukegan, is a doctor. The March 16 primary winner will battle appointed incumbent Jim Wipper in November.

Schild's experience includes presently serving at Central DuPage Hospital in Winfield. She spent the last three years as system director for Resurrection HealthCare St. Francis Hospital in Evanston. She has also worked at hospitals in Hinsdale and California.

At Central DuPage Hospital, she is responsible for the operation of two Central Sterile departments for sterilization of all of the hospital and associated areas.

"I decided to run for the office of coroner because Lake County is such a growing place. There will be more crime and deaths and we need to bring more sophistication to the office, not just 'business as usual'. My background is in health care, the financial side, education and management, in heart and renal transplant, labor and delivery and other departments. I have been a registered nurse for 25 years, in emergency rooms and intensive care," Dr. Schild said.

While in Los Angeles, at 500-bed Good Samaritan Hospital, Schild was recognized for bringing the world of health career possibilities to youngsters.

"I feel that you need health care experience to do the job. I have experience starting a department," Schild said.

Schild said she would expand public education with greater stress on prevention of death, Not only death of teens from DUI accidents, but also the rising death rate of children due to accidents.

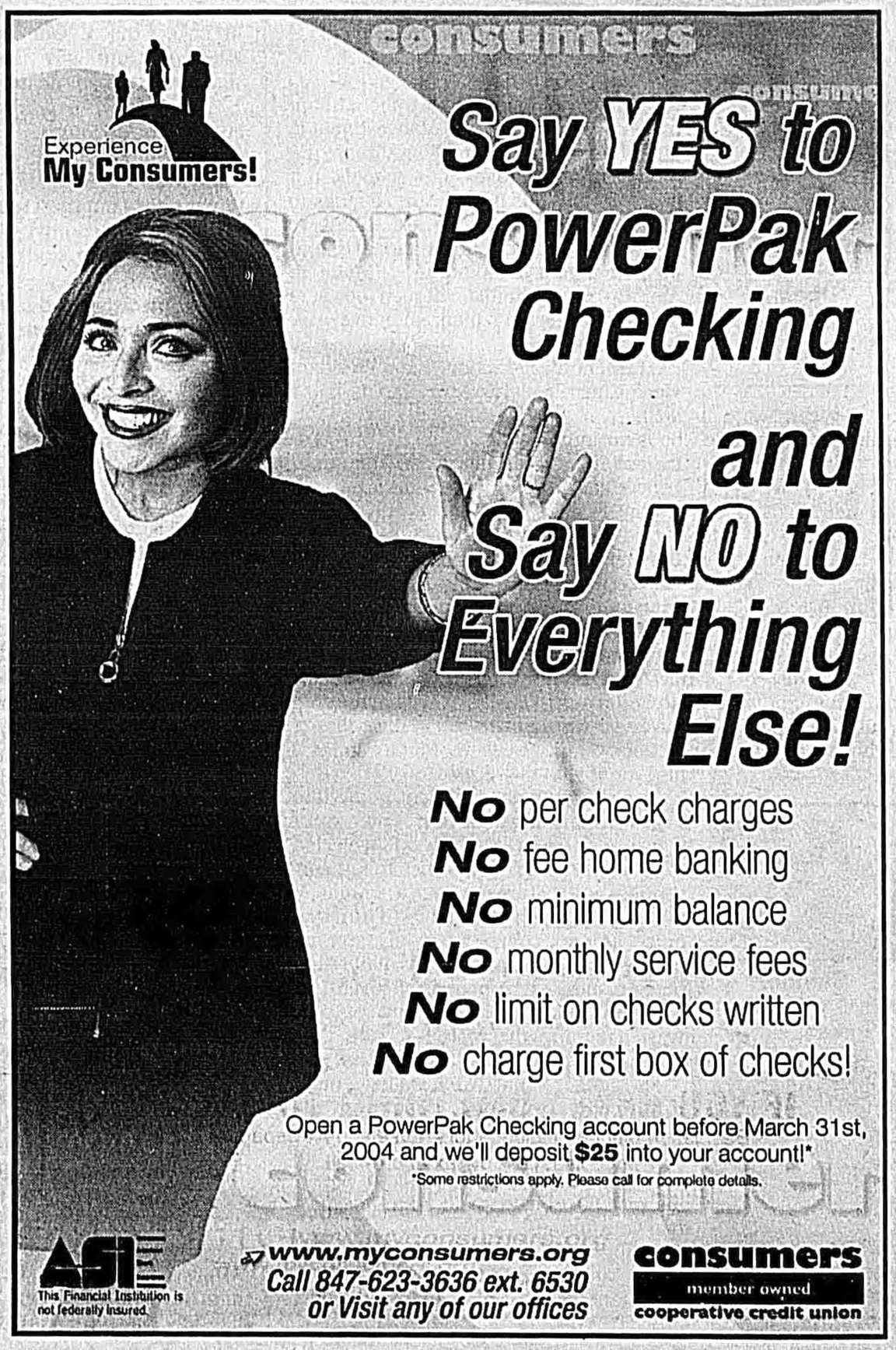
Dr. Richard Keller ran for office in the last mayoral election in Waukegan but that did not dampen his interest in the process. "I learned a lot," he said. Keller runs a health clinich, Healthreach, in Waukegan, serving uninsured and low-income people.

"The coroner's office would be an extension of what I an doing now. I think the coroner should expand its role in public health more to the prevention of death," Keller said.

Keller said his background as a physician would help him intrepret data as a necessary part of the coroner's tasks. He worked in St. Therese Hospital's emergency room for 10 years after moving to the area from Omaha. He has a degree in medicine from the University of Nebraska.

Keller said he would like to expand the popular programs of the

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William H. Schroeder
Publisher

Robert J. Schroeder
Vice President/General Manager

Marc Jenkins
Managing Editor

30 South Whitney St., Grayslake, IL 60030
Tel: (847) 223-8161; e-mail: edit@lakelandmedia.com

EDITORIAL

Simon legacy: personal touch

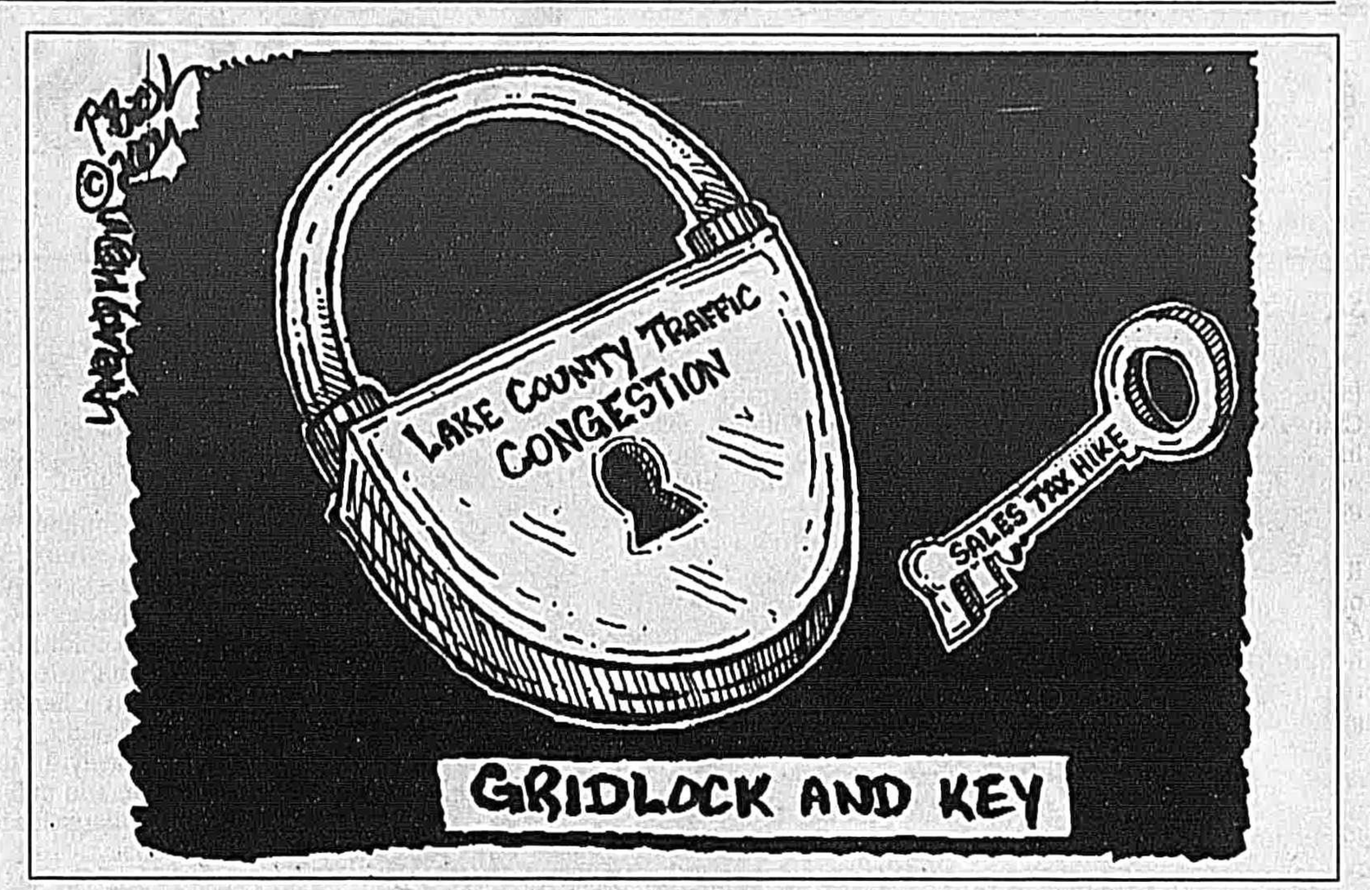
With balloting for the March 16 primary only hours away, our thoughts turn to the late Paul Simon, a successful and long serving politician who represented the best in public service to the citizens of Illinois. How would he have fared? How would he have conducted himself in 2004 U.S. Senate primary campaign devoid of decency and civility?

First of all, Senator Simon, who died during the holiday season due to complications in connection with treatment for a heart ailment, would have been trodding the campaign trail, talking to voters and shaking hands. Unlike many of the 2004 candidates from both parties known only to voters through TV commercials, campaign flyers and newspaper articles, besides embracing so-called "new campaign techniques," Senator Simon would have made sure that he was in touch and literally touching voters with handshakes, kind words and beaming a warm smile behind his trademark horn-rimmed glasses.

Holding many offices including state representative, state senator, Lt. Governor and Congress, Simon used personal, one-on-one campaigning to build trust and confidence. He campaigned often in Lake County, as he did in just about every one of the state's 103 counties. His brand of liberal, big government, social spending politics didn't mesh with all the voters (just the majority), but even non-supporters recognized his honesty, integrity and down-to-earth quality.

If Americans have become cynical and distrustful about the political process, it's because they only see their leaders and candidates for office as players on the tube or sources for policy statements in the papers. Yes, the late Illinois Senator made good use of TV communications and, as a former newspaper publisher, he understood the importance of freedom of speech and the right to express public opinions. But he backed up these beliefs with unbounded energy and commitment needed to visit the hustings and talk to the electors in person.

That's what we miss most about Senator Simon. That's what we miss in politics today.



VIEWPOINT

Can't get ballots to armed forces



BILL SCHROEDER
Publisher

A former resident of Lake County who is now a veterans' affairs advocate and advocate for electing more veterans to Congress says the absentee voting system for armed service personnel doesn't work.

Rear Adm. James J. Carey USNR-Ret., former chairman of the Federal Maritime Commission, said getting paper ballots to servicemen and women in the far corners of the world and getting them back to local precincts in time for counting is a work in progress where the "government tries and fails."

Carey said voting is encouraged, but fast moving deployments outrun efforts to make it possible for people in uniform to practice one of their basic rights—voting. "In effect, our country has disenfranchised service people. That isn't right." Carey, a North Shore resident before moving to Washington, D.C. to perform government service, said experiments with electronic voting are being conducted. But nothing has been perfected yet.

Moreso than ever in a Presidential year, armed forces personnel ought to be able to have a say in who their commander-in-chief will be. But they don't because of huge gaps in the system.

What does work, Carey told members of the Lake County Council Navy League recently, is an effort waged by members of National Defense Volunteers getting former armed forces personnel elected to Congress. "Our nation needs people in Congress who know and support the military. We're making progress, but there's a big job to be done."

The volunteer organization was successful in 10 out of 11 Congressional campaigns in 2000. In 2002, candidates supported by the NDF were elected in 57 out of 65 races. This year the organization will be involved in 100 Congressional campaigns.

Congressman Mark Kirk (R-IL) who represents the 10th District including eastern Lake County and the northeast corner of Cook County along Lake Michigan, was backed by the NDF political action agency in 2000. Carey praised Kirk as the kind of representative with a military background needed in Congress. Kirk is a Naval Reserve lieutenant commander.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Wrongly targeted

Some residents in county board district 6 recently received a mailer from a candidate for that county board seat that set new lows in the art of negative campaigning. In this mailer, this candidate made personal attacks against me, someone who is not running for any office, and against the dedicated, professional staff members in our village. Evidently this individual has mistaken me for one of his opponents in this election.

It is one thing to make personal attacks against me as an elected official. Unfortunately it is not unusual for persons holding elected office to be targeted by negative campaign tactics, especially from a candidate who does not have a grasp on the important issues and who has a track record they would like to hide. However, it is quite another thing to make personal attacks against staff members and personal attacks against residents of the district. This is at least the second time this candidate has made personal attacks against residents in his own district. This seems to be the strategy behind this person's campaign, and is probably the reason he was turned out of office two years ago by the voters in this district.

This mailer and this individual's penchant for personal attacks against just about anybody are the best examples of why more qualified people do not become involved in local politics.

However, these also serve as the BEST examples of why more qualified people SHOULD become involved in local politics.

Please become familiar with the candidates and issues on your ballot and please vote March 16th.

Timothy R. Perry
Mayor, Village of Grayslake

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See the special
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pages 10-15
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Dump Thompson Carter

The time has come to get rid of Lake County Board member Bonnie Thompson Carter. She is running out of control, manipulating other Lake County offices for her own personal gain. Let me give you an example.

I own a property on Route 59, one block south of Route 12, at the intersection of Ivanhoe Rd. This site has been a gasoline service station/repair shop for almost 50 years. This was an approved use for the GC district. Upon hearing of my plans to develop my property to upgrade it to a modern gasoline station/ convenience store, Mrs. Carter single handedly manipulated the Lake County Zoning Board of Appeals to change the Unified Development Ordinance to require a Conditional Use Permit for this type of use. All this was done, using no other example to make the change than my property. AND, this was started 3 days after receiving information from the planning department about the progress on my development, which we had been working on for at least two years previous. After four site plan reviews, and numerous changes to the site plan, we had met all the criteria to satisfy the planning department. Now comes the hearing, and here is Mrs. Carter, lying to the Zoning Board of Appeals about the "bright lights," and "substantial noise" that would come with the new building when in fact, we had met all the light and noise requirements of Lake County.

All this is going on while another property owner at Wilson Rd. and Route 134, coincidentally, three houses away from Mrs. Carter's house, is asking the Zoning Board of Appeals for a permit to do almost exactly the same thing. And there is Mrs. Two faced Carter, telling the Board what a wonderful plan this is, will really improve the site, and enhance the neighborhood.

This to me, is a gross abuse of power, a biased and capricious method to use her manipulation to get more votes at the upcoming election, at my expense. All this while my rights to develop my property are being completely ignored. I'm sure I'm not the only one who has been stonewalled by these type of tactics here in Lake County, but the time has come to put a stop to this self centered type of activity.

Get rid of Carter and let all of us frustrated Lake County business owners grow and add to the tax base that is seriously out of balance here in Lake County.

Dump Bonnie Thompson Carter!

Timothy Leicht

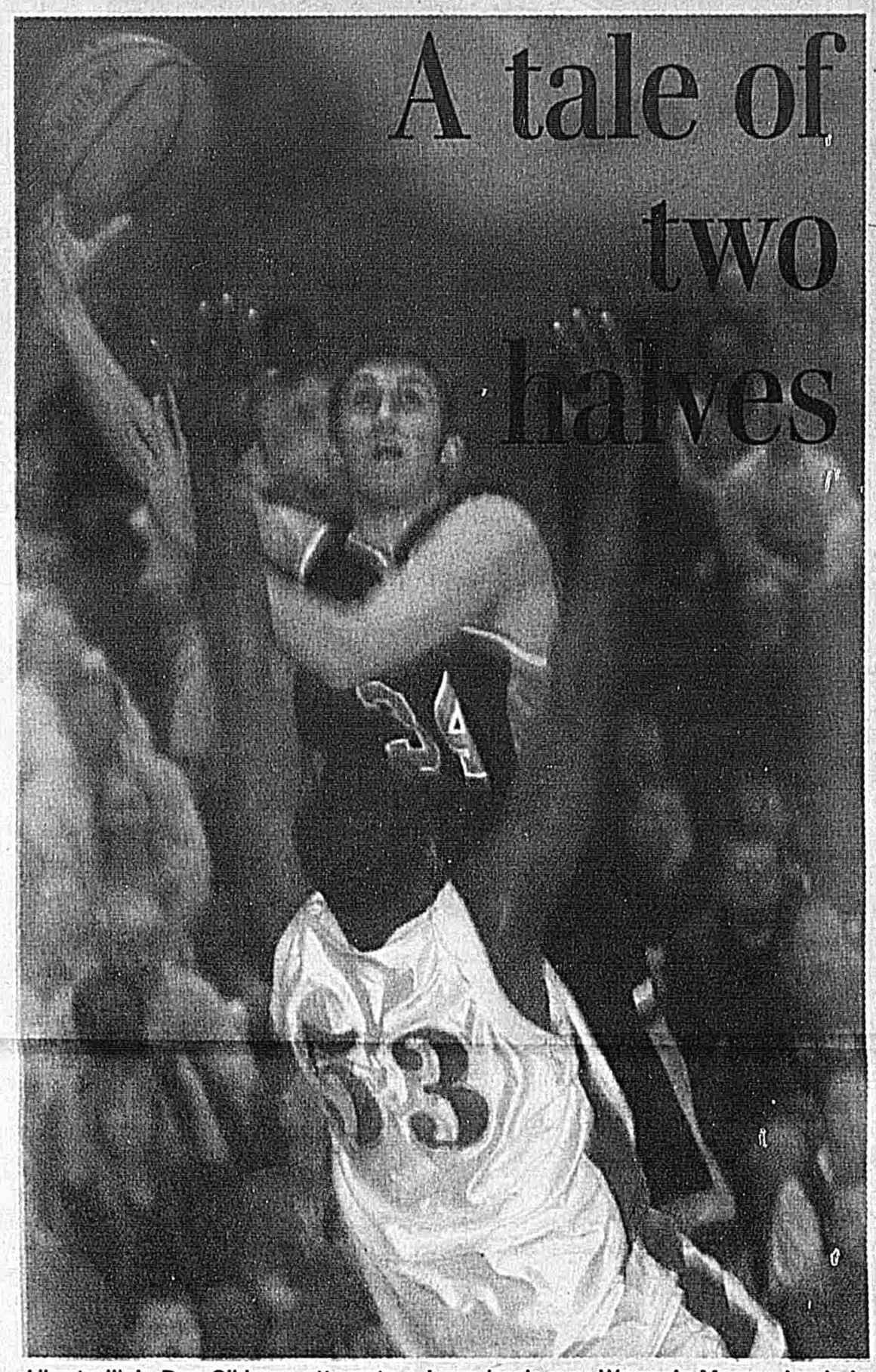
Remove your signs

When this issue arose recently we contacted Lake County Building & Zoning to indicate that the big lit up signs opposing a local school referendum had been installed in the road right of way on Route 134 across from Gavin South school and another one at 37320 Rte. 59 again in unincorporated Lake County.

The Building & Zoning department indicated that this issue had to be discussed with our County Board Representative. I ask this question, "When did Bonnie Carter take charge of Building & Zoning?" This County Board Rep. is in a reelection fight of her own for which she is willing not to take a stand publicly on issues such as these. Additionally one of the sign violations mentioned above is two doors from her place of residence and nothing has been done...please do what is right, and have these signs removed from their current illegal positions on our roadways.

J. Kevin Hunter
Ingleside

Sports



Libertyville's Dan Gibbons attempts a jump hook over Warren's Marcus Lewis in the Cats' 52-47 loss to the Devils in the Waukegan sectional semifinals.—*Photo by John Dickson*

A tale of two halves

Warren withstands valiant comeback

By ROB BACKUS
rbackus@lakelandmedia.com

For 16 minutes Wednesday night, Warren could do no wrong. From fancy passes to fade-away jumpers, everything was going their way.

Then, just as quickly, the tides shifted and the Devils couldn't buy a basket. A seemingly insurmountable lead soon evaporated, leaving the team in a heated battle over the game's final five minutes.

Fortunately, the team was able to regain its composure and pull out a hard-fought 52-47 win over Libertyville in the Waukegan sectional semifinals.

"It feels like we won the game twice," Warren coach Chuck Ramsey said. "We were in control and playing well, then we were behind. Usually when you see someone blow a lead like that they don't get it back."

Warren got the lead early in the game thanks to a trey from Marvin Bembry, which gave his team a 5-2 advantage.

Freshman point guard Ceola Clark closed out the quarter with a sweet dribble penetration before dishing the ball to Benny Morrison for an easy layup to give the Devils a 13-5 lead after the first quarter.

As the Devils went back to the bench after the quarter their fans shouted at Libertyville, "He's a freshman!"

But it was a sophomore that provided the biggest lift for Warren.

Forward Marcus Lewis, a recent call-up from the sophomore team, scored 7 second-quarter points, including a pair of Jordan-esque fade-aways as the Devils pushed their lead to 29-11 at halftime.

"Marcus is a good shooter and can move to get his shot," Ramsey said. "He plays with confidence."

Warren shot 12-of-20 from the field in the first half, compared to just 5-of-20 for Libertyville.

"We missed a few shots early in the game and I think we got a little timid," said Libertyville forward Dan Gibbons, who was held scoreless in the first half.

The Cats seemed to wake up at halftime and what followed was one of the biggest comebacks in Libertyville history.

Gibbons scored 9 of his 11 points in the third quarter as Libertyville outscored Warren 23-10 to get right back in the game.

"That third quarter was fun," Gibbons said. "That was probably one of the biggest quarters we've had all season."

Ramsey said of Libertyville's third quarter: "They took the ball to the basket and were flying on the boards. We were getting outfought."

When Curtis Goodwin (10 points) connected on a running layup, followed by a free throw on the three-point play to give Libertyville its first lead (41-39) since 2-0, the Cats' comeback was complete.

"We thought we had it in control at halftime," Lewis said. "But we were overconfident. They came storming back."

It was Lewis (game-high 17 points) who helped calm things down by connecting on a three to give the lead back to Warren.

With the Devils clinging to the slimmest of leads with one minute left, Lewis calmly stepped to the free-throw line and nailed a pair of foul shots to help seal the win.

"It was like, 'I better make those two shots,'" said Lewis, whose team improved to 17-11 with the win.

Kevin Morkin had 14 points to pace the Cats, who fell to 18-10 with the loss.

Gibbons, Cats gave it all they had

By JOHN PHELPS
Lakeland Correspondent

Dan Gibbons looked at the scoreboard before heading into the locker room at halftime.

Like his Wildcat running mates, he didn't care too much for what he saw.

"We said to ourselves, 'We're much better than that,'" the senior forward and co-captain said. "We just wanted to go out with a bang, win or lose."

The Cats had found themselves in a 29-11 hole to Warren after the first 16 minutes of play.

But wait just a minute.

Just as all good players and teams do, they adapt, overcome and improvise.

"We started being more aggressive and taking the ball to the hole (in the third quarter)," said Gibbons, who went scoreless on 0-for-8 field goal shooting in the first half.

But like he's done so many other times this year during Libertyville's 18-win season, Gibbons found his groove in the third.

Cats head coach Jim Goodwin knows it's going to happen. It's just a question of when.

"There's always a point in every game where he (Gibbons) will catch fire," Goodwin said of his two-year varsity player and two-time All-North Suburban selection. "Tonight, it was the third quarter. We really took off when Danny started hitting. He was guarded tightly but he still made some great off-balance shots. And when he's not able to go inside, he can shoot just as effective from the outside."

It was that inside outside mix in the third that helped Gibbons, who tallied 19 points and nine boards a game this year, pop in nine of his team-high 13 points.

"Everyone thought we were out of it," said Gibbons, who is still undecided about his collegiate plans for next year. "I just started feeling my shot and the entire team was full of energy."

Included in the Gibbons explosion was a monster one-handed dunk that ignited not only the team, but resurrected the Libertyville faithful.

All of a sudden, the Cats were down by only 10 (37-27) with 1:46 left in the third.

Gibbons' trey, followed by Matt Hogan's free throw and three-pointer, drew Libertyville to within 39-34 heading into the final stanza.

The Cats then opened the fourth with a 7-0 run to take their first lead (43-41) since the opening tip-off.

But Warren held their ground as Gibbons and Libertyville started running out of gas.

"We got tired. I think we used too much of it (energy) for the comeback in the third," Goodwin said.

Warren eventually regained control in the fourth en route to the win. But the main message here deals with the resiliency and effort put forth in coming back the way they did.

"I couldn't be any prouder of these guys," Goodwin said. "A lot of teams would have packed it in (after the first half)."

Warren coach Chuck Ramsey was also impressed with what he saw from the Cats.

"You have to give credit to Libertyville for a tremendous comeback," Ramsey said. "To be able to come back like that says a lot about their character and how tough they are."

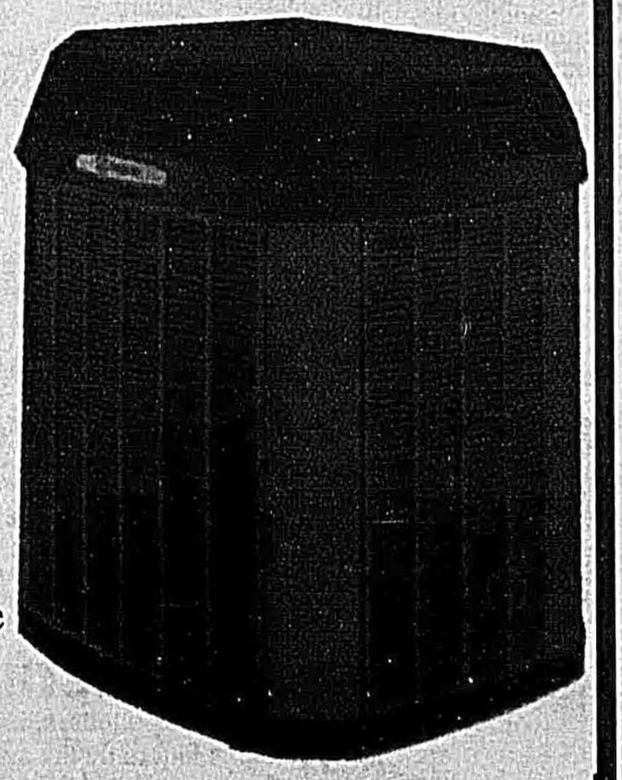
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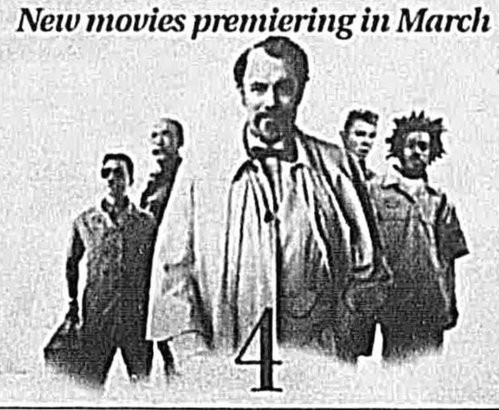


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MOVIE REVIEW

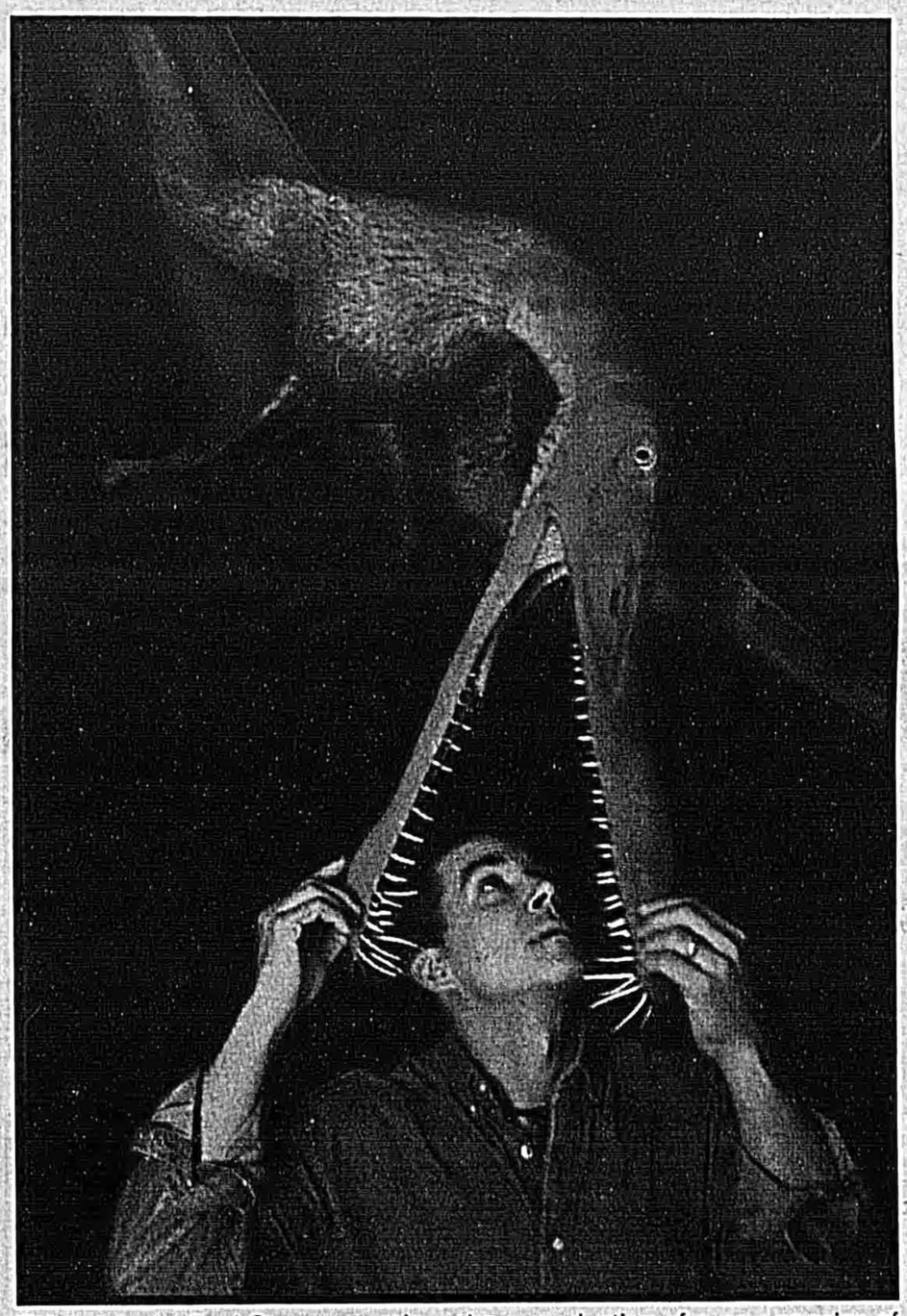
New movies premiering in March



a Bite of history

Newly discovered pterosaur sheds light on winged reptiles from more than 100 million years ago

by Kurt Loft



Paleontologist Paul Sereno examines the reproduction of a new species of pterosaur, commonly known as a pterodactyl. Sereno led the team that discovered the unusual fossil in the Sahara Desert.—***Images courtesy of University of Chicago***

Humans are lucky to be living long after the age of dinosaurs. These great and terrible lizards wouldn't have taken kindly to being in zoos, much less kept as pets, preferring instead to munch on people as part of their daily diet.

Newly discovered dinosaur species are popping up all of the time, and the fossil records suggest most of these beasts were designed for digesting lesser critters. The latest monster comes from under the harsh sands of Africa's Sahara Desert, a creature with big wings and an ominous set of chompers — a new species of pterosaur, a flying reptile with a 16-foot wingspan that dates from 110 million years ago. The discovery was made by a team led by Paul Sereno, a noted paleontologist at the University of Chicago and explorer-in-residence at the National Geographic Society.

"This find puts African pterosaurs on the map," said Sereno, who announced the discovery in December 2003.

What makes the find unusual is its completeness; previous discoveries of these winged reptiles in Africa had been limited to teeth and scattered bones. The latest fossil includes the majority of a wing and several sharp and slender teeth from a pair of oversized jaws.

"To find a wing composed of a string of paper-thin bones in a river deposit next to the sturdy bones of dinosaurs is a remarkable feat of preservation," Sereno said.

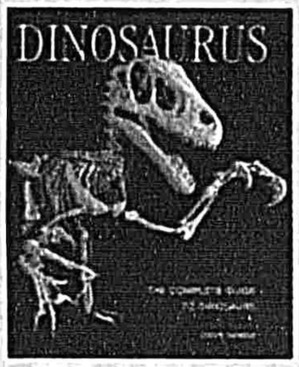
The bones and teeth were found in Cretaceous-age rocks in Niger made from sediments deposited by ancient rivers, according to a University of Chicago report. Near the pterosaur site, Sereno's team also found bones of the 35-foot-long, sail-backed Suchomimus and the enormous crocodile Sarcosuchus, dubbed "SuperCroc."

Sereno describes the pterosaur as a fish eater that lived near rivers, judging from the shape of its teeth. As the jaws closed, the teeth interlocked to snare fish, leaving signs of wear on their sides. Despite its size, the pterosaur was a nimble predator.

"Somehow this huge species was able to fish on the wing," Sereno said. "We imagine a pterosaur soaring over the water and somehow stalling to snag a fish. It was a tremendous animal."

The pterosaur, which has yet to be given a formal name, is a cousin to the dinosaurs. Its body was possibly covered by hair, but not the same kind of hair as on modern mammals. Its wings were thin, scientists say, and may have been translucent, allowing light to pass through them. It also possessed sharp claws for climbing on rocks and webbed feet for swimming.

The African pterosaur resembles another species discovered in Brazil. The two lived about the time South America and Africa were beginning to separate. Because they were able to fly, Sereno said, "pterosaurs wouldn't have had much trouble getting across at that point, so it's not surprising to find a close relative over there."



TO LEARN MORE

For further reading about dinosaurs and their cousins, including pterosaurs, consider *Dinosaurus: The Complete Guide to Dinosaurs* by Steve Parker (Firefly Books). This lavishly illustrated volume includes recent discoveries and developments in paleontology and explains how dinosaurs lived, interacted, ate, mated and died. Each species has an artist interpretation and fact file.

PTEROSAUR PROFILE

The word "pterosaur" (pronounced Ter-o-sor) comes from the Greek words for "winged lizard" and describes flying reptiles of the dinosaur era. Most paleontologists do not consider pterosaurs true dinosaurs.

Scientists classify them in a group called ornithodira, meaning "bird necks," and a subgroup called archosaurs, meaning "ruling reptiles." They are commonly referred to as pterodactyls.

Pterosaurs first appeared about 230 million years ago and died out with the dinosaurs 65 million years ago. The first vertebrates to fly, they predated birds by 75 million years. The first pterosaur fossil was discovered in Germany in 1784, and fossils have since been unearthed on all the world's continents.



A rendering (right) shows a pterosaur in flight over Africa as it might have been 110 million years ago.

COVER DESIGN BY ROB DAULT





Lake Forest Hospital's CareCoach made its first stop at a Walgreens store on Jan. 22 in Zion. Now, free screenings will be available monthly at four Lake County stores beginning in March.

Lake Forest Hospital CareCoach partners with Walgreens to offer free health screenings

The CareCoach, Lake Forest Hospital's mobile health unit, will be making regular monthly stops at four Walgreens locations in Lake County beginning March 16. This partnership with the drug store giant was launched in late January when the CareCoach offered free blood pressure, blood sugar and cholesterol screening for three hours at the Walgreens in Zion.

Now, it's been expanded to include Walgreens stores in Waukegan (Belvidere and Lewis), Grayslake (Washington and Route 83) and Lake Villa (Grand and Milwaukee). In addition to the usual blood pressure, blood sugar and cholesterol screenings, free bone density tests also will be offered at all four sites in March.

The CareCoach will visit the Grayslake Walgreens on the third Tuesday of each month from 10 a.m.-1 p.m. It will be at the Zion store on the third Thursday of the month from 2:30 p.m.-4:30 p.m. On the fourth Thursday of each month, the CareCoach will visit the Lake Villa Walgreens from 10 a.m.-1 p.m. and the Waukegan store from 2:30 p.m.-4:30 p.m.

The Lake Forest Hospital CareCoach travels throughout Lake County providing free screenings, counseling with a registered nurse, immunizations and referrals. For more information on the CareCoach schedule, call 847-535-6709 or visit the hospital's Web site at www.lakeforesthospital.com.

Lake Forest Hospital is a fully licensed and accredited 215-bed community hospital offering a complete range of services that are staffed by nearly 500 physicians, with offices conveniently located throughout Lake County. For information about the hospital, call 847-234-5600; for a physician referral call 847-535-6171.

The Future is Wild with emphasis on scientific research, imagination

Fantastic Life 200 million years ahead

The Adler Planetarium's exciting new StarRiderTheater show, The Future is Wild, looks at Earth millions of years in the future, as it might exist, without the presence of human beings. Telling the extraordinary story of fantastic creatures that may roam and fly, this 'future shock' - which opened February 12 - applies Adler's tradition of planetary study to the Earth.

The Future is Wild will alternatively surprise and intrigue audiences, placing them in a time they could scarcely imagine," said Adler's Theater Manager Mark Webb. "The science is both fascinating and breathtaking to imagine."

Scientists don't often make bold predictions, and few are as exciting and mind- boggling as The Future is Wild. The show envisions Earth's planetary evolution without human beings who are replaced by massive new creatures that will inhabit the planet.

The Future is Wild tells of 87 ton squids roaming the Earth after all the continents have merged into a single, huge landmass. It tells of snails that hop like kangaroos, fish that fly like butterflies through forests, and birds with four wings. This future world may seem incredible, but it is firmly grounded in science," says R. McNeill Alexander, Ph D, one the scientists behind the film.

The world premier of The Future is Wild at Chicago's Adler Planetarium & Astronomy Museum brings many 'firsts.' Never before have scientists intricately projected Earth's destiny over so many millions of years. Also, The Future is Wild is the first natural history show developed for the degree, 9,500 square-foot domed screen, the ultimate in immersive is Wild at the Adler technology. Audiences will experience exciting creatures and environments in extreme size, enveloped by images and sounds of these mighty creatures.

Museum hours are from 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday and 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Saturday and Sunday.

Special holiday hours are 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Dec. 26 through Jan. 4, with extended hours from 5 p.m. to 10 p.m. The Adler is closed Christmas Day and open New Year's Day.

"Ultimate Universe Adventure" is $18 for adults, $17 for seniors 65 and older and $16 for children 4 to 17. This package includes admission and the choice of two sky shows.

"Galaxy Passport" is $13 for adults, $12 for seniors 65 and older and $11 for children 4 to 17. This package includes admission and choice of sky shows.

The show brings to life the habitats and creatures of up to 200 million years from now. Its methodology, ensuring that everything in the film is plausible, is based on several approaches:

Some of the film's wonderful, hypothetical creatures came from the detailed advice of a specialist in biomechanics.

The Adler Planetarium & Astronomy Museum, America's first planetarium, has inspired more than 35 million visitors since its opening in 1930. Nine stateof-the-art exhibition galleries located in the stunning Sky Pavilion present modem space exploration and the history of astronomy. The world's first StarRiderTheater, the most technologically advanced, audience-interactive planetarium, features virtual flights through the cosmos. The Adler's mission to present the human quest to better understand the Universe is led by our scientists and historians, working at the forefront of research in astronomy and its fascinating history.

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'Springfest' Expo to kick-off new Lakes Community H.S.

Lindenhust/Lake Villa Chamber of Commerce expecting large crowds at event

The Lindenhurst-Lake Villa Chamber of Commerce will host a "Springfest" business expo at the unveiling of the new Lakes Community High School, located at the intersections of Deep Lake and Grass Lake Roads, Lake Villa on March 27 and 28. The expo will be open to the public from 9am to 4pm both days. Admission to the event is free.

"I think we'll have a great turn-out because this is the first time that our new school will be open to the public," said Dr. Dennis Hockney, District 117 Superintendent and chamber board of director. "We'll be giving school tours during the two day expo."

"We are expecting over 100 booths," said Jim Hyerdall of the Advertiser Network and chamber of commerce president. "The response we've received so far has been incredible. We're expecting huge crowds."

10 drawings totaling $5000 of "Expo Bucks" will be awarded to visitors that can be redeemed at participating expo businesses.

"We're really excited to be able to award 10 lucky winners that can spend at exhibitors' businesses, said Connie Meadie, LLV Chamber of Commerce Executive Director. "It's a huge incentive to attend this event, whether you're a business or a visitor."

The Great Lakes Naval Training Center's Navy Band will be on hand to perform the "Star Spangled Banner" and raise the American Flag during the ribbon cutting ceremony at 9:30 am on Saturday. The general public is invited to partake in the opening event ceremonies.

In addition to the wide variety of business booths, the Lake Villa Township Lions Club will hold a pancake breakfast on Sunday morning from 8am-noon.

"Springfest" will provide plenty of fun for the whole family. Entertainment includes performances by the McNulty Irish Dancers, clowns making visits, face-painters, caricatures and more.

Grade school bands on Sunday, cheerleaders on Saturday.

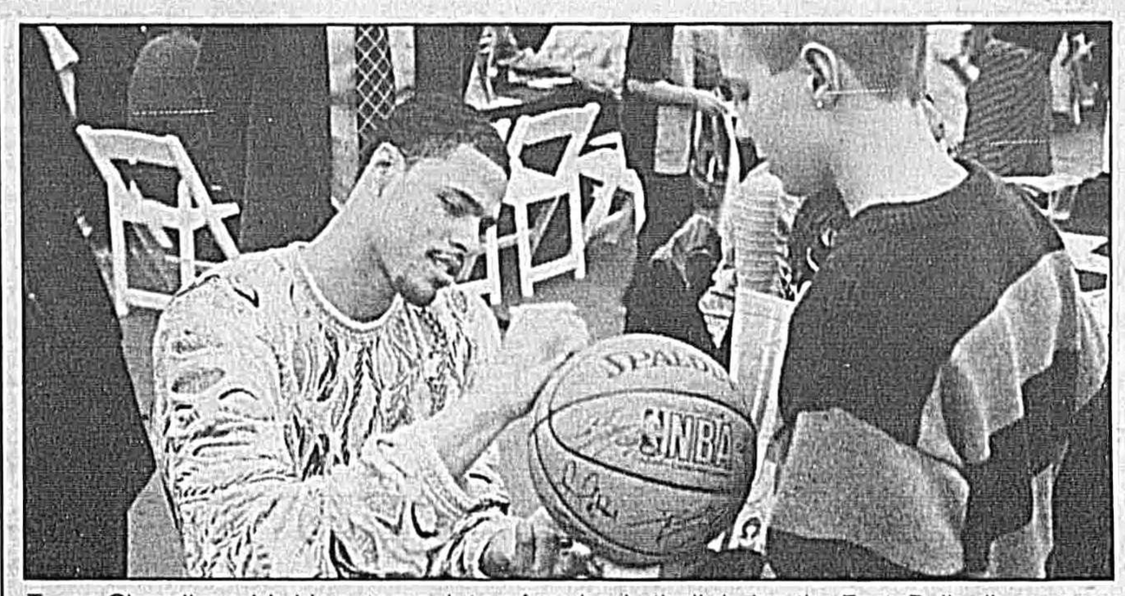
Ronald McDonald will make a visit as well as the Royal Academy of Dance who will perform on the main stage.

Businesses will be on hand to give out promotional information as well as conducting product demonstrations. Aqua Pool and Spas will feature food and refreshments will be available by Grande Jakes and RJ's Eatery.

When asked why residents should attend, chamber of commerce president Jim Hyerdall said, "You can't miss the unveiling of the new school. I've toured it and it's unbelievable. Also there's going to be 10 $500 gift certificates awarded to visitors. Plus, there's plenty of activities and business booths to visit. It'll be a great two-day event."

Lakes Community High School is located off of Grass Lake Road. For more information, call the chamber office at 847-356-8446.

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Tyson Chandler adds his autograph to a fans basketball during the FestaBulls dinner auction fundraiser for CharitaBulls.

Chicago Bulls set date for 2004 FestaBulls fundraiser

Verizon Wireless to Present Annual Dinner Auction on Thursday, March 25.

The Bulls and Verizon Wireless will host the 15 th annual FestaBulls dinner auction to raise funds for CharitaBulls, the Bulls' non-profit organization, on Thursday, March 25. The event, presented by Verizon Wireless, will be held at the team's training facility, the Berto Center, in Deerfield.

Guests attending FestaBulls will have the opportunity to dine and mingle with the entire Bulls team including coaches and broadcasters on the practice court while shopping a wide selection of sports memorabilia. Silent and live auctions will feature Bulls uniforms, shoes and basketballs as well as autographed jerseys from players around the NBA including Allen Iverson (Philadelphia 76ers), Carmelo Anthony Denver Nuggets) and Yao, Ming (Houston Rockets).

For the first time ever, Chicago Bulls autographed, game-worn throwback jerseys will be available for purchase. The team will debut the red Chicago script uniforms on February 10, 2004, versus the Indiana Pacers before putting them up for bid at FestaBulls. Other top items on the auction block include autographed jerseys from Marsh all Faulk St. Louis Rams) and Chicago Bear Brian Urlacher, a Donovan McNabb (Philadelphia Eagles) autographed football and an Elgin Baylor autographed throwback jersey.

Doors open and silent auction bidding begins at 6 p.m. Live auction begins at 7:30 p.m. and silent auction closes at 8:45 p.m

The event takes place at the Berto Center 550 Lake-Cook Rd., Deerfield, Ill. Tickets are $175; Table of 10 $1,600. Tickets can be purchased by contacting the Bulls at 312-455-4122 or CR@bulls.com.

All proceeds from FestaBulls, including ticket sales, sponsorships and the sale of auction items, will benefit CharitaBulls, the philanthropic arm of the Chicago Bulls organization.

CharitaBulls was created in 1987 as a vehicle for the Bulls to help make Chicago a better place to live.

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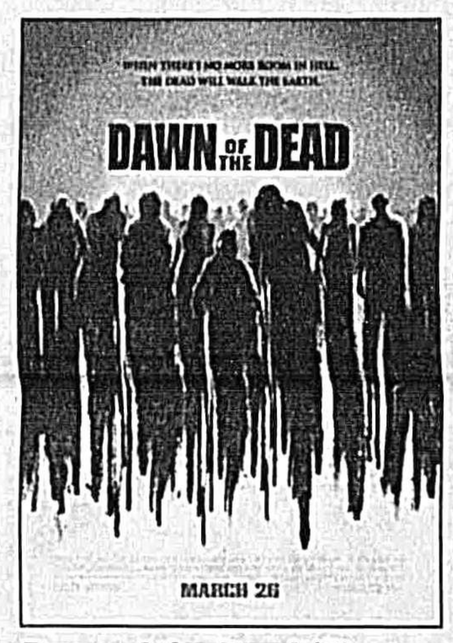
George & Pam Singleton
www.reelmoviecritic.com

MOVIE REVIEW KEY

5 = Don't miss this movie!
4 = Wow! I'm impressed
3 = Worth seeing but could've been better
2 = Wait until this movie comes out on video
1 = Someone should be fired for making this movie

New Movies Premiering in March

March 19



Dawn of the Dead (R)

With the tagline "When there's no more room in hell, the dead will walk the earth," and the self-descriptive title of "Dawn of the Dead," one should not be surprised that this is a bloodthirsty zombie flick.

Sarah Polley "My Life Without Me" is a nurse caught in the middle of a chaotic situation, where zombies have begun to take over the world and attack the living. She and a small group of survivors, with the help of police officer Ving Rhames "Undisputed" find temporary shelter at a huge shopping mall in Everett, Washington.



Wouldn't you know it the zombies have a residual memory that has them programmed to go to the mall - America's social gathering place? As the survivors realize that time is running out, they plot an escape to what they believe to be a true safe haven on an island. Their first line of defense is to use two armored mall shuttle busses to force their way through a sea of zombies.

This sounds a lot like last year's surprise hit "28 Days Later," which was set in England, using mostly unknown actors. Also stars Mekhi Phifer "8 Mile."

Eternal Sunshine of the Spotless Mind (R)

You could probably call this "Memento" light but since it has Jim Carrey in it, how could you complain?

Jim Carrey and his girlfriend Kate Winslet undergo a medical procedure to erase unwanted memories. As he goes through the process he changes his mind and stores some memories in a special place in his mind. This has unintended consequences, which leads to much of the humor in the film.

Also stars Tom Wilkinson as the psychiatrist, with Kirsten Dunst as his receptionist and Mark Ruffalo and Elijah Wood as lab technicians.





Jersey Girl (PG-13)

We're good with Jennifer Lopez in most of her films but Ben Affleck usually leaves us wanting for more "Paycheck." What may make this film worth two hours of your life (this is far more important than the cost of a movie ticket) is that Liv Tyler and George Carlin have major roles in the film and the fact that Kevin Smith "Jay & Silent Bob Strike Back" is the director.

The story is based upon Smith's experience of his marriage and being the father of a two-year-old. It should be noted that this film has no relationship to the 1992 movie, "Jersey Girl."



The trailer shows more of Liv Tyler as featured in the film, probably to decrease the groans of those that may be thinking about "Gigli," which truth be told, was not all that bad; but no one wanted to see it because they had enough of "Bennifer" from the tabloids. Now that the dust has somewhat settled on that, maybe this film can be judged on its merits.

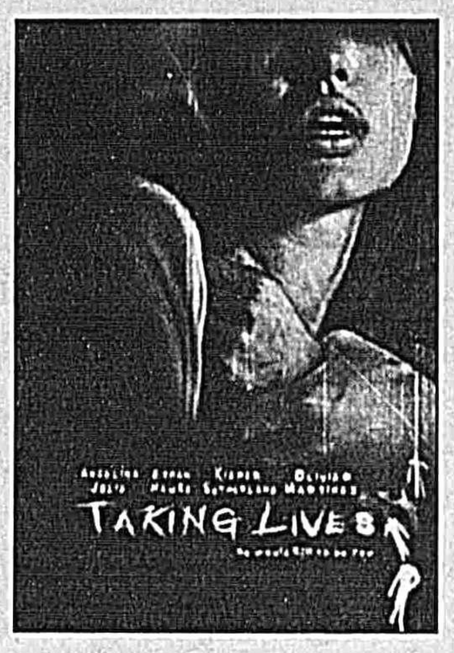
You can expect this film to have some depth beyond what is seen in the trailer. Word is that J-Lo appears primarily in the first 10-15 minutes of the film and then the lead actress role migrates to Liv Tyler "Lord of the Rings: ROTK."

Taking Lives (R)

Like Al Pacino in "Insomnia," Angelina Jolie moves north of the border to help solve a crime. Al went to Alaska and Angelina is a hotshot FBI profiler who goes to Montreal to hunt down a killer, who assumes the identity of his/her victims. Normally you would say "his" but after "Monster," it could be "her." Angelina has to adjust to being in a strange location and get along with a police team, where she is a definite outsider.

Ethan Hawke, a museum employee, helps in the effort by trying to find an art professor wanted for some major thefts.

The movie is based upon a book of the same name by Michael Pye.



March 26

Never Die Alone (R)

A Premier Selection at this year's Sundance Film Festival, this movie is based upon the 1974 novel of the same name, written by Donald Goines. A gangster turned author Goines published 16 pulp novels during the four years after his release from prison in 1970 and his shooting death four years later.

Paul (David Arquette of "Eight Legged Freaks"), a reporter, witnesses the murder of gang leader King David (DMX of "Cradle 2 the Grave"). Reading King David's journal, Paul begins to investigate the circumstances leading up to the murder. Using flashbacks, we see the gang leader's rise and his eventual demise.

Street smart King David was half preacher and half Satan. He recorded many of the things that happened to him on audiotapes (We guess he has a presidential complex)), which often recorded actions and their consequences. His was the classic case of what goes around, comes around. When you create a hell for others, you more than likely will end up there yourself.

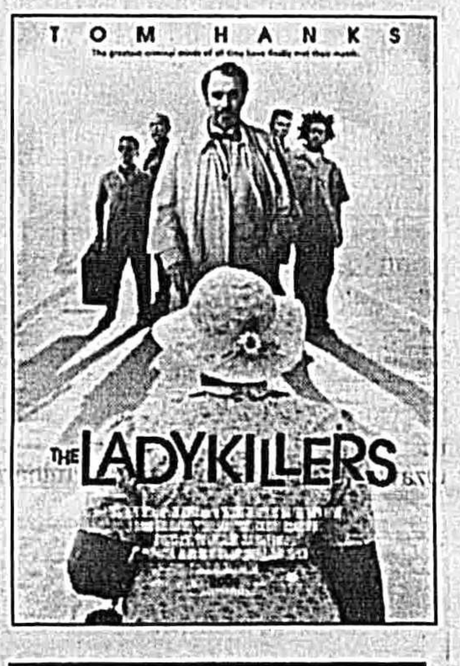
Ladykillers (R)

Tom Hanks "Road to Perdition" stars in this remake of the 1955 comedy that featured Sir Alec Guinness and Peter Sellers.

Hanks and his group of thieves plan to rob a casino. After the old lady whose house they are renting learns of the scheme, they decide they must kill her. On the surface this should be easy but the reality is that she is like a cat with nine lives - she simply has a way of avoiding the sinister plans that are constantly being implemented.

Directed by the Coen Brothers "O Brother, Where Art Thou?", this caper is set in New Orleans rather than the original location of London. The gang can't just leave the house because they plan to dig a tunnel from it to the riverboat casino where the money is kept.

Hanks reaches back to his comedic roots for this film. Combined with the wacky humor of the Coen Brothers, this should be a funny one.



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9:30 9:50 10:20
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Sat/Sun Matinee 11:15 1:45
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4:00 6:15 7:15 9:40 10:20
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STARSKY & HUTCH (PG-13) (1205 1245 225 305 445 525) 705 745 935 1025
HAVANA NIGHTS (PG-13) (105 315 530) 740
TWISTED (R) - ID REQ'D (1215 235 455) 725 945
PASSION OF THE CHRIST (R) - ID REQ'D (1200 1230 100 300 340 430) 640 720 750 920 955 1030
CONFESSIONS OF A TEENAGE DRAMA QUEEN (PG) (1240 250 500) 710 925
EUROTRIP (R) - ID REQ'D 1005
50 FIRST DATES (PG-13) (1220 245 515) 735 1010
MIRACLE (PG) (1235 350) 650 1015
MONSTER (R) - ID REQ'D 950
MYSTIC RIVER (R) - ID REQ'D (1240 345) 655
LORD OF RINGS: RETURN OF THE KING (PG-13) (1155 355) 800
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AGENT CODY BANKS: DESTINATION LONDON (PG) (1200 225 450) 715 940
SECRET WINDOW (PG-13) (1215 235 500) 730 1000
HIDALGO (PG-13) DIG (1245 350) 710 1020
LORD OF RINGS: RETURN OF THE KING (PG-13) (1130 340) 800
STARSKY & HUTCH (PG-13) (1215 240 510) 735 1000
HAVANA NIGHTS (PG-13) (1220 240 500) 740 1010
PASSION OF THE CHRIST (R) - ID REQ'D DIG (Stadium) (1200 330) 700 1010
PASSION OF THE CHRIST (R) - ID REQ'D DIG (1230 400) 730 1040
CONFESSIONS OF A TEENAGE DRAMA QUEEN (PG) (1200 225 445) 715 940
WELCOME TO MOOSEPORT (PG-13) (1245 325) 710
50 FIRST DATES (PG-13) ★ (1215 235 455) 715 945
MIRACLE (PG) DIG (1215 345) 720 1030
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AGENT CODY BANKS 2* [PG]
Fri 4:50 7:00 9:10
Sat 12:30 2:40 4:50 7:00 9:10
Sun/Wed 12:30 2:40 4:50 7:00
Mon/Tue/Thu 4:50 7:00
SECRET WINDOW* [PG-13]
Fri 4:55 7:25 9:50
Sat 12:40 2:55 4:55 7:25 9:50
Sun/Wed 12:40 2:55 4:55 7:25
Mon/Tue/Thu 4:55 7:25
HIDALGO* [PG-13] Fri 4:00 6:55 9:45
Sat 1:00 4:00 6:55 9:45
Sun/Wed 1:00 4:00 6:55
Mon/Tue/Thu 4:00 6:55
STARSKY & HUTCH* [PG-13]
Fri 5:10 7:20 9:30
Sat 12:50 3:00 5:10 7:20 9:30
Sun/Wed 12:50 3:00 5:10 7:20
Mon/Tue/Thu 5:10 7:20
THE PASSION OF THE CHRIST [R]
Fri 4:15 7:15 9:55
Sat 1:15 4:15 7:15 9:55
Sun/Wed 1:15 4:15 7:15
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SHOWTIMES FOR FRI 3/12 THRU THU 3/18
Twisted (R) (Open Caption) Su 5:00, 7:15
Advanced Screening "Taking Lives" (R) ✔ Sa 7:45
Spartan (R) ✔ 12:20, 2:40, 5:10, 9:20
Agent Cody Banks 2 (PG) ✔ 12:20, 3:20, 6:20, 9:20
Secret Window (PG13) ✔ ✕ 12:20, 3:20, 6:20, 9:20
Secret Window (PG13) ✔ ✕ 12:20, 3:20, 6:20, 9:20
Hidalgo (PG13) ✔ 12:20, 3:20, 6:20, 9:20
Hidalgo (PG13) ✔ 2:00, 5:05, 8:00
Starsky and Hutch (PG13) ✔ 12:35, 3:00, 5:25, 7:50, 10:10
Starsky and Hutch (PG13) ✔ 1:45, 4:10, 7:00, 9:25
Twisted (R) Fr - Sa, Mo - Th 12:40, 2:45, 5:00, 7:15, 9:45
Su 12:40, 2:45, 9:45
Havana Nights (PG13) 12:45, 2:55, 5:15, 7:40, 10:05
Passion of Christ (R) 2:10, 4:50, 7:30, 10:10
Passion of Christ (R) 12:45, 3:25, 6:05, 8:45
Eurotrip (R) 12:25, 2:40, 5:00, 7:15, 9:40
Welcome To Mooseport (PG13) 1:10, 4:15, 7:10, 9:50
Teenage Drama Queen (PG) 12:40, 2:45, 4:55, 7:05, 9:15
50 First Dates (PG13) 12:30, 2:50, 5:20, 7:40, 10:00
Miracle (PG) Fr - Sa 12:25, 3:30, 6:30, 9:30
Monster (R) 1:15, 3:55, 6:40, 9:15
You Got Served (PG13) 12:50, 3:10, 5:30, 7:45, 10:00
Butterfly Effect (R) 1:00, 3:40, 6:50, 9:30
Mystic River (R) Fr, Su - Th 1:45, 4:45, 7:45
Sa 1:45, 4:45
Lord of the Rings (PG13) 12:30, 4:35, 8:35
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SECRET WINDOW (PG-13) (1:15) (3:25) 5:35 7:45 9:55
TWISTED (R) (1:25 3:35) 5:45 7:55 10:05
50 FIRST DATES (PG-13) (12:30 2:40) 4:50 7:05 9:20
HIDALGO (PG-13) (1:15) 4:05 6:45 9:30
MONSTER (R) (3:10) 7:15 9:45
BARBER SHOP 2: BACK IN BUSINESS (PG-13) (12:40 3:00) 5:20 7:40 10:00
STARSKY & HUTCH (PG-13) (12:45 2:55) 5:05 7:15 9:25
AGENT CODY BANKS 2 (PG-13) (12:40 2:50) 5:00 7:10 9:20
THE LORD OF THE RINGS (PG-13) (3:45) 7:15
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Susan Hult talks about her role as Prompter for Lyric Opera of Chicago at the Fair Hills Farm in Barrington, March 19.

Barrington Lyric presents Susan Hult who 'Knows the Score'

Members and guests of Barrington Chapter of Lyric Opera are invited to hear Susan Hult who will talk about her role as Prompter for Lyric Opera of Chicago.

Sponsored by the Barrington Chapter of Lyric Opera of Chicago, the program will begin at 2 p.m. on Friday, March 19 in a lovely country home at Fair Hills Farm in Barrington Hills. Following the program, light refreshments will be offered by Program Co-Chair Toni Savadel from Carventersville and her committee: Mary Green and Elaine Matouski, Barrinton.

Ms. Hult is presently an Assistant Conductor at Lyric, a post she has held for I I years where she specializes in prompting. She has worked with James Levine at Bayreuth on the Kirchner Ring from 1994-98 and with Seiji Ozawa and the New Japan Philharmonic's spring opera festival for 5 years.

After receiving a grant to study prompting, Ms. Hult made her prompting debut with the San Francisco Opera.

Some of the artists with whom she has worked include James Morris, Bryn Terfel, Siegfried Jerusalem, Sam Ramey, Eva Marton, Placido Domingo, Hildegard Behrens, Deborah Voigt, Ben Heppner, Jane Eaglen, Mirella Freni, Rena Pape and Catherine Malfitano.

Program charge is $20 for members and $25 for guests. Your check is your reservation. Please reply with number attending by March 15 to Susanne Wells, 225 Timber Ridge, Barrington Ill. 60010. For more information- call 847- 382-2613.

You can visit Lyric Opera of Chicago's Web site at www.lyricopera.org.

CLC's jazz groups meet legend challenge

By BILL SCHROEDER
Publisher

Maybe it was the knowledge that the Feb. 29 performance on Sunday only comes along about every 30 years or so. Or it might have been the inspiration of guests Frieda Lee and Rich Corpolongo, but the Monday night and Tuesday night jazz ensembles of College of Lake County put on a memorable salute to Woody Herman and Buddy Rich that ended in a musical version of pyrotechnics.

The verve, energy and euthenticity of the musicians made Jazz Sunday at CLC at Mainstage Theater in the James Lumber Performing Center a memorable event. Both the skilled players and their appreciative audience were in a leap'en Leap Year mood on an uncommonly mild winter afternoon that prompted engaging songstress Lee to ask, "Isn't Chicago weather wonderful?"

CLC Jazz empressario Bruce Mack had his Monday night musicians, who earn their seats through audition, primed to do honor to the memory of two of the most popular and influential leaders of the big band era.

With Corpolongo showing the way with the Herman clarinet and alto solos, the Monday nighters eagerly captured the salute spirit with "Blue Fame," Woody's theme song, that segued into "Woodchopper's Ball," the Herman band's first big hit that opened the way for Herman Herds that followed.

You knew the band was into unbridled swinging on "Things Ain't What They Used to Be" when the drummer tipped over one of his side drums. The momentary miscue went practically unnoticed because Mack brought the ensemble back with a zestful upbeat reading of a Buddy Rich classic "Love for Sale" that that showcased biting brass and a bop-influenced tenor sax solo by Gregory Dudzienski—Navy band.

Taking the background, but not a backseat, Mack's Tuesday players admirably backed up Frieda Lee, a Chicagoan in demand for both solo and workshop appearances, who did more than ample honor to Herman band showcases for his female singers like the dreamy "Early Autumn" and a scat- tinged version of "Lady is a Tramp." We also have to wonder. Who was first? Frieda Lee or Nancy Wilson?

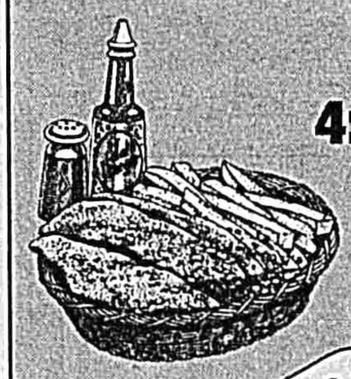
New-found CLC jazz fans could have listened another hour to more songs from Frieda, but Mack stayed on program and brought the salute program to a close with a Don Rader arrangement of "Chicago." Five drummers were on stage, taking turns at four-bar riffs running almost 10 minutes in total, that provided an explosive conclusion to a program that raised the CLC jazz standards.

The Tuesday Night Jazz Ensemble opened the program and deserves a word of praise for determination and dedication. The Tuesday nighters produced genuine big band feelings and sounds, especially during full instrumentation choruses. Membership is open to all Lake County residents, age 17 years or older. No audition is required.



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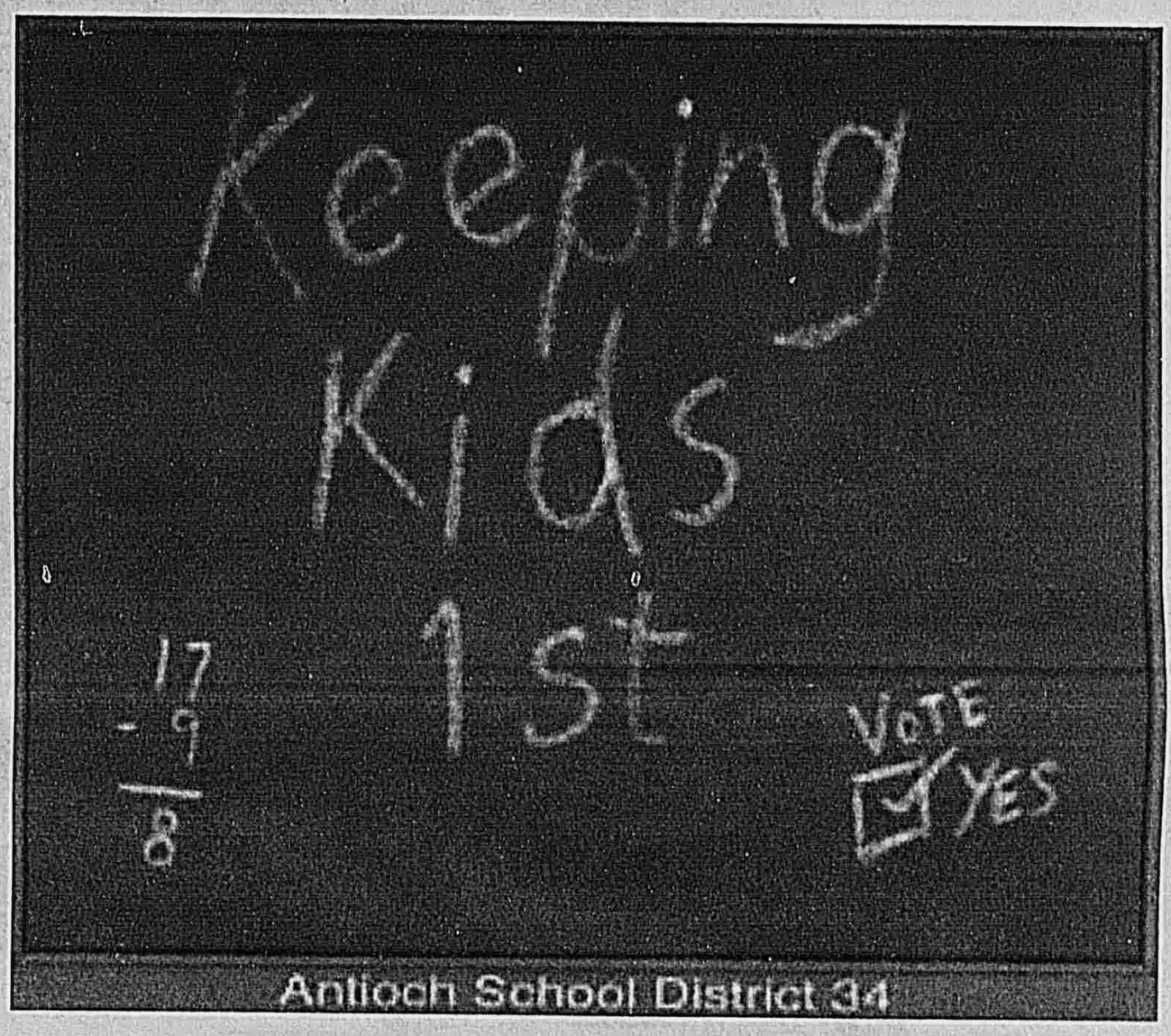
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ON MARCH 16th

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ELECTION 2004

An overview of the primary races to be decided on March 16.

** denotes incumbent*

1st District

REPUBLICAN: Wayne Blake, Judy Martin*, Anita Merkel Dyer

DEMOCRAT: Spiro Georgeson

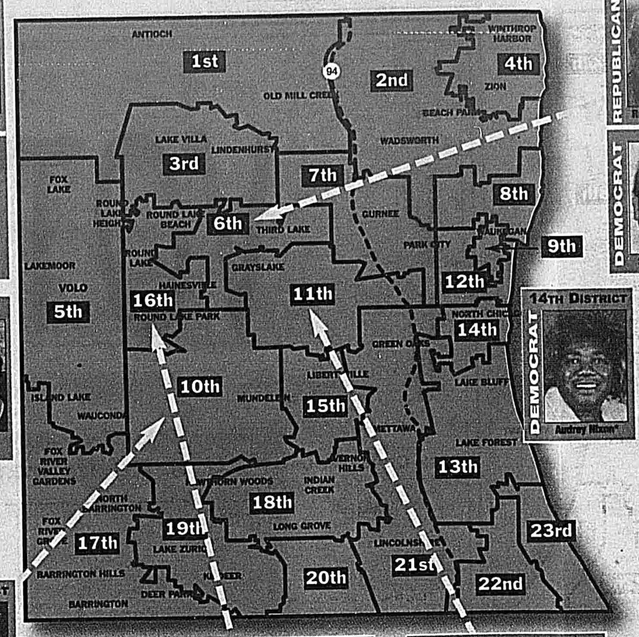
5th District

REPUBLICAN: Bonnie Thomson Carlier*, Jim Farrell

10th District

REPUBLICAN: Diana O'Kelly*

County Board



14th District

DEMOCRAT: Audrey Nixon*

16th District

REPUBLICAN: Michelle M. Daye, Robert E. Powers*

11th District

REPUBLICAN: Sandy Cole*, John Bilitzke

DEMOCRAT: PHOTO NOT AVAILABLE — George Kleser

6th District

REPUBLICAN: Robert W. Depke, Lawrence Lashbrook, Bryan A. Gutraj

DEMOCRAT: Steven Skinner

Lake County Offices

Circuit Court Clerk

REPUBLICAN: Sally D. Coffelt*

DEMOCRAT: PHOTO NOT AVAILABLE — Mary Nelson

Recorder

REPUBLICAN: Dana Sabonjian

DEMOCRAT: Mary Ellen Vanderventer*

State's Attorney

REPUBLICAN: Michael Waller*

DEMOCRAT: PHOTO NOT AVAILABLE — Michael Jacobs

Coroner

REPUBLICAN: James Wipper*

DEMOCRAT: Richard Keller, Sophia Schild

State Senator

26th District

REPUBLICAN: William Peterson*

29th District

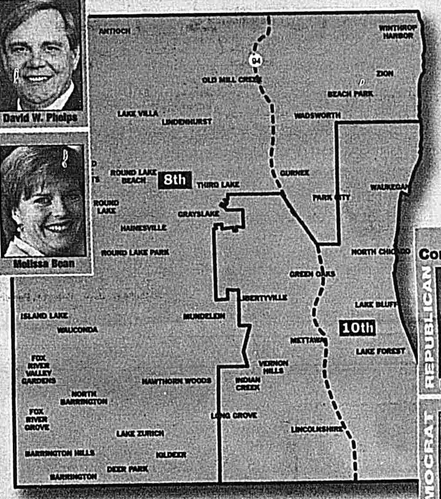
DEMOCRAT: Susan Garrett*

8th Congressional

REPUBLICAN: Philip Crane*, David W. Phelps

DEMOCRAT: William Scheurer, Melissa Bean

U. S. Representative



10th Congressional

REPUBLICAN: Mark Steven Kirk*

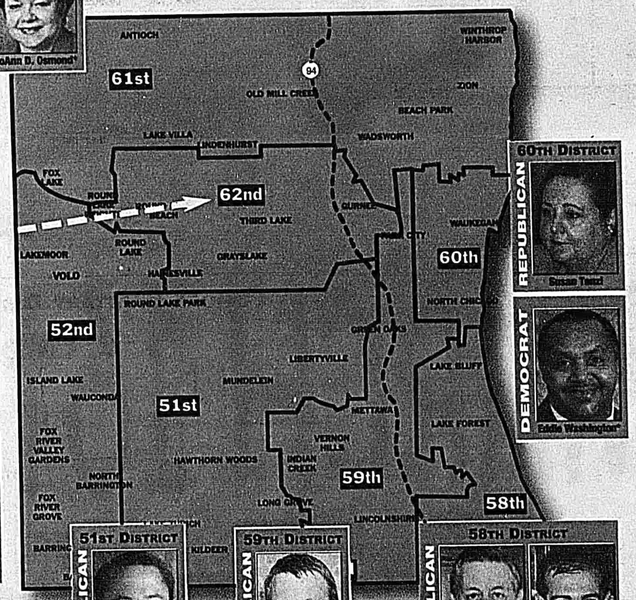
DEMOCRAT: Lee Goodman

U. S. Senate

REPUBLICAN: Jim Oberweis, Andy McKenna, John Borling, Steven Rauschenberger, Jack Ryan, Christjoev Kalitaris, Jonathan Wright, Norm Hill

DEMOCRAT: Barack Obama, Daniel Hynes, Gery Chico, Maria Pappas, M. Blair Hull, Joyce Washington, Nancy Skinner

State Representative



61st District

REPUBLICAN: JoAnn D. Osmond*

62nd District

REPUBLICAN: Robert W. Churchill*, Fernando Salazar

DEMOCRAT: Sharyn I. Elman

52st District

REPUBLICAN: Mark Beachler*

60th District

REPUBLICAN: Susan Tenzi

DEMOCRAT: Eddie Washington*

51st District

REPUBLICAN: Ed Sullivan Jr.*

DEMOCRAT: Nancy Shepherdson

59th District

REPUBLICAN: Paul E. Tully

DEMOCRAT: Kathleen A. Ryg

58th District

REPUBLICAN: David Winistorfer, Mary P. Brown*

DEMOCRAT: Karen May*

Referendums

Lake County
- Impose a 1/4% tax on retail sales for transportation purposes

Village of Barrington Hills
- Create a police pension fund

Shields Township
- Reduce elected officials salaries to 1997 levels

Grayslake Comm. Park District
- Issue $4,000,000 in general obligation bonds

Round Lake Area Public Library
- Increase library tax rate to .49% from .36%

Winthrop Harbor School Dist. #1
- Increase debt service extension base to $500,000 from $28,200

Nippersink School Dist. #2
- Increase tax rate to 2.80% from 2.20%

McHenry C.C. School Dist. #15
- Increase tax rate to 2.26% from 1.96%

Millburn C.C. School Dist. #24
- Increase tax rate to 2.83% from 2.30%
- Issue $15,985,000 in school building bonds

Cary C.C. School Dist. #26
- Increase tax rate to 2.70% from 2.21%

Antioch C.C. School Dist. #34
- Increase tax rate to 2.75% from 2.10%

Grass Lake School Dist. #36
- Increase tax rate to 2.54% from 1.99%

Gavin School Dist. #37
- Issue $6,500,000 in school building bonds

Big Hollow School Dist. #38
- Issue $29,000,000 in school building bonds

Grayslake Community Cons. School Dist. #46
- Increase tax rate to 3.50% from 2.61%
- Issue $30,000,000 in school building bonds

Gurnee School Dist. #56
- Increase tax rate to 2.43% from 2.18%

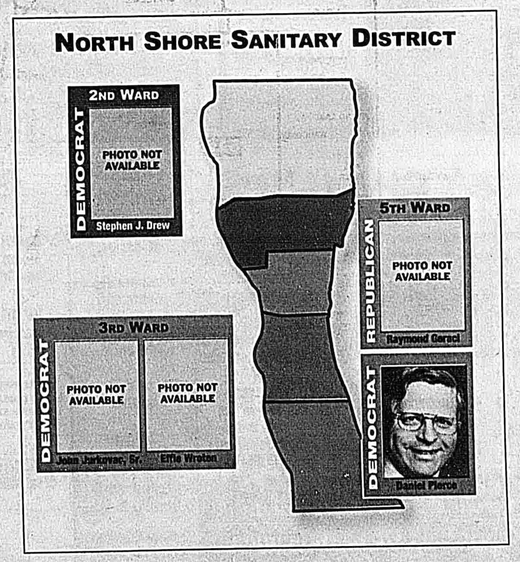
Warren Twp. H.S. Dist. #121
- Issue $15,500,000 in school building bonds

Beach Park Fire Protection Dist.
- Levy ambulance service tax of 0.30%

Cary Fire Protection Dist.
- Increase tax rate to 0.40% from 0.30%

Lake Zurich Rural Fire Protection Dist.
- Increase special ambulance tax to 0.30%
- Increase tax rate to 0.40% from 0.30%

North Shore Sanitary District



2nd Ward

DEMOCRAT: PHOTO NOT AVAILABLE — Stephen J. Drew

5th Ward

REPUBLICAN: PHOTO NOT AVAILABLE — Raymond Geraci

DEMOCRAT: Daniel Pierce

3rd Ward

DEMOCRAT: PHOTO NOT AVAILABLE — John Jankowiak, Sr.; PHOTO NOT AVAILABLE — Effie Wroten

ToDo:

Auditions

Bristol Renaissance Faire accepting Auditions

The Bristol Renaissance Faire announces Auditions for its 2004 season. The Faire is looking for performers to trod the boards and take to the streets on 16 open-air stages and in the shaded streets of a festive 16th century village. Jugglers, courtiers and clowns, minstrels, beggars, and wenches, all are part of a Renaissance in entertainment and celebration.

The Bristol Renaissance Faire is casting actors, musicians, variety performers, and Kids Kingdom performers for the run of the Faire. A special call is out for strong male and female actor/combatants. Classes and rehearsals begin weekends in early June. The Faire runs weekends from July 10 through Labor Day, Sept. 6.

All performers auditioning must provide a current resume and head-shot (photograph) and must contact the Faire office to schedule an audition. Auditions will be held Saturday and Sunday, March 20 and 21 at the Carthage College theatre in Kenosha, WI. Email BRFAuditions@recfair.com or call the Faire office at 847-395-7773 Ext. 232 or to schedule an audition. There are paid and volunteer roles for a variety of Stage and Street performers

More information about these performance opportunities and about the audition process can be found at www.renfair.com, click on Bristol and then on "Participants." From there you can view audition and pefformance details.

The Faire's Historical Guildes are also looking for participants to reenact the Nobility, Military and Celtic society of the time, No audition is necessary to become involved in a Historical Guilde. For further information, go to the website at www.renfaincom, select the Bristol Faire Location and click on "Get involved" or you can call 847-395-7773 Ext. 232.

Fundraiser

EA SPORTS Roundball Classic to host annual charity banquet

The EA SPORTS Roundball Classic, America's original high school basketball all-star game, is hosting its annual charity banquet at the Hyatt Regency in Chicago. The event, will feature a keynote address from New Knicks President of Basketball Operations, Isiah Thomas, live and auctions and dinner with the 22-player all-star roster.

All proceeds from the banquet will benefit Chicago charities for the third consecutive year including Chicago Sun-Times Trust. During its 40-year history, the EA SPORTS Roundball Classic and its banquet have raised over $4 million for charitable causes.

The 40th anniversary all-star game to be held on Wednesday, March 24 at the United Center will feature the top 22 high school talents from around the country.

The event takes place Monday, March 22, at 6 p.m. - 10:00 p.m. at the Downtown Hyatt Regency Crystal Ballroom 151 E. Wacker Drive Chicago, Ill.

Tickets are $125 and are available by calling 877-74-HOOPS

40th anniversary Roundball Classic to premiere tomorrow's basketball stars

The 40th annual EA SPORTS Roundball Classic, America's original high basketball all-star game, returns to the United Center to feature the basketball stars of tomorrow. Last year's contest set the attendance record for any high school all-star game as it featured eventual 2003 NBA Draft top pick LeBron James. The 2004 roster will again premiere the top 22 high school basketball talents the country including highly-touted Southwest Atlanta Christian product Dwight Howard and Peoria's Shaun Livingston.

During its history, the Roundball Classic has generated over $4 million for charitable causes. Among the many recipients is a long list of non-profit in the Chicago area where the game is now played each year.

The event takes place on Wednesday, March 24, at 7 p.m. - Tip-Off, at the United Center 1901 West Madison Street Chicago,

Individual ticket prices are $25, $15 and $7.50. Tickets are available at the United Center box office, Ticketmaster locations, online at www. ticketmaster.com, or by calling 312-559-1212.

Music

Big Band Spring Concert

"Big Band Hit Parade" is the theme for the March 21 Spring Concert by the Big Band Sound of Deerfield.

The 2 p.m. concert will be held at the Patty Turner Senior Center on Elm Street in Deerfield.

The 18 piece swing band is under the direction of Bob Gand with vocals by Miss Rebecca Nixon. Gand conducts the group and plays Flugelhorn and his famous red trumpet.

The program of Big Band hits will feature various soloists in the group plus a special Guest Artist.

For more information call 847-945-5321.

Crispian Steele-Perkins, Trumpet, Performs with the Chicago Brass Band

The Chicago Brass Band, under the direction of Dr. Colin Holman, is pleased to feature world- renown trumpet soloist, Crispian Steele-Perkins, on his final U.S. tour. The concert will take place on Saturday, March 20 at 8 p.m. at the Crystal Lake South High School, 1200 S. McHenry Ave., Crystal Lake, Ill.

Crispian Steele-Perkins is well known to concert and radio audiences as a full-time trumpet soloist, and his career has embraced a wide spectrum of musical experience – dance band, symphony orchestra, opera orchestra, film soundtracks and TV signature tunes. Considered by many to be the worlds leading player of the natural trumpet, he now performs and records regularly with many of the most eminent period instrument ensembles. As a soloist, Crispian Steele-Perkins gives lecture recitals with keyboard accompaniment.

The concert will feature solos and natural trumpet demonstrations by Crispian Steele-Perkins, as well as the music CBB will perform at the national brass band championships in Charleston, West Virginia in April. Advanced ticket prices are adults $12, students/seniors $10, Door sale prices are adults $15, students/seniors, $13.

For more information call 847-577-7468 or visit www.chicagobrassband.org

Sara Lee Chamber Music Series Takács String Quartet

One of the world's most accomplished chamber ensembles, The Takács String Quartet returns to Orchestra Hall in an all Beethoven concert Tuesday, March 23 at 8 p.m. Founded in 1975, the Takács Quartet holds residencies at the Aspen Festival, London's Barbican Centre, and the Guildhall School of Music. The Grammy Award-nominated ensemble features violinists Edward Dusinberre and Karoly Schranz, violist Roger Tapping, and cellist Andras Fejér.

Tickets are $15-$35 and can be purchased by calling PhoneCharge at 312-294-3000 or 800-223-7114, or by visiting the Symphony Center Box Office at 220 S. Michigan Ave., Chicago, IL 60604. Box Office and PhoneCharge hours are Monday-Friday, 10 a.m. - 6 p.m For group rates, please call 312-294-3040. Artists, programs, and ticket prices are subject to change.

Reading

Of Books & Bogs returns to first Thursdays

Of Bogs & Books is returning to its original meeting time of 7 p.m. on the first Thursday of each month. This nature and environmental reading club was established in January, 1994 at Volo Bog State Natural Area in cooperation with the Friends of Volo Bog. As the club celebrates its 10-year anniversary, it will be revisiting some of the classics and the group's favorites.

Thursday, April 1 "The Medusa and the Snail" by Lewis Thomas 7-8:30 p.m. These twenty-nine essays extend Thomas' genial view bringing the most unlikely observations to bear upon the eternal questions of life and death, man and his world, the human genius for making mistakes, on disease, on cloning, and even on warts.

Sponsored by VOLO BOG STATE NATURAL AREA and the Friends of Volo Bog, "Of Bogs & Books" is a small, informal book discussion group for adults interested in environmental, outdoor and natural history literature. Monthly meetings are free and open to the public.

Books selected for discussion range from classic to contemporary. "Of Bogs & Books" meets on the first Thursday of each month at 7 p.m. at the Volo Bog Visitor Center Library. Participants collectively choose which books to read, and may read as much or as little of the book as they wish. Current selections are sometimes available for purchase from the Friends of Volo Bog Tamarack Shop and may also be found at local libraries, book stores and at web sites on-line.

To register, or for more information, call 815-344-1294.

Theater

PM&L 'Babes in Arms'

Spring is on it's way and so is the happy musical comedy "Babes in Arms" by Rodgers and Hart at the PM&L Theatre, 877 Main St., Antioch, Ill. Show dates are Marcb 19,20,26,27, April 2 and 3 at 8 p.m. and March 21,28, and April 4 at 2:30 p.m.

Director Tom Hausman from Antioch assisted by Yvonne Alton of McHenry, musical director Tracy Kiederlen of Antioch, and choreographer Courtney Willding of Ingleside have chosen a large and energetic cast. Leading roles are played by Josh St. John of Round Lake Beach, Liz Willding of Ingleside, Amy DeLamoreaux of Huntley, Dean Griffiths of Round Lake, Mary Campbell of Palatine, and April Milbratz of Richmond.

Call 847-395-3055 for reservations. Box office hours are Mon.-Thurs. 5:30-7:.30 p.m., Sat- 11:00 a.m.-2 p.m., and 1 1/2 hours before curtain time on production dates.

Tickets are $13 for adults and $10 fo r students and seniors. To order by mail prior to March 8, mail your name, address, phone number, number of tickets and date desired with a check to PM&L Theatre, Box 23, Antioch, Ill. 60002.

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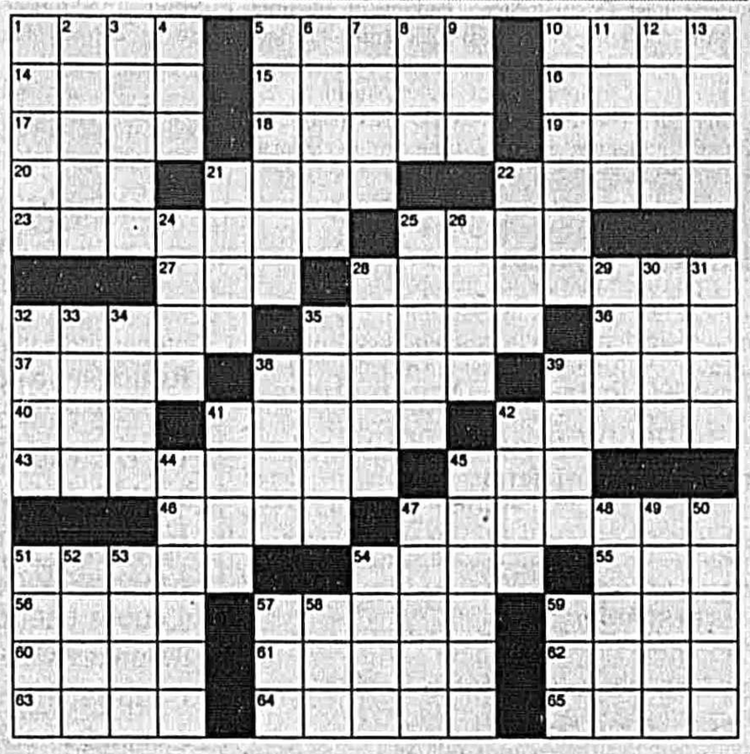
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23 WEDNESDAYS $2 Call Drinks; 24; 25 KARAOKE; 26 50's & 60's Party!; 27 KARAOKE
30; 31

HUGE St. Patrick's Day Celebration
Sat., March 13, 5pm-'til
Back again by popular demand! Matt Karner and Hunter Beesch playing with the Fort Dearborn Highland Guard Fire and Police Bagpipers. All funds raised from this celebration will be donated to St. Jude's Children's Hospital (By the Band and Stone Creek Grill) Last year over $2,000 was raised for LaCasa. Enjoy entertainment all evening.
In honor of St. Patrick's Day, March 13 and 17, we will be serving corned beef and cabbage dinner, corned beef sandwiches, Irish stew and traditional "Green Beer", plus other drink specials.
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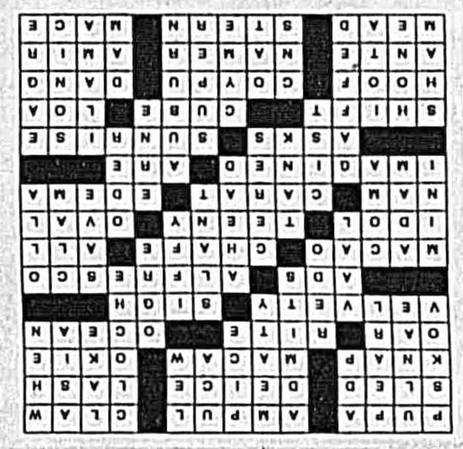
ACROSS

1. Insect stage
5. Glass stage vial
10. Curved to spull something
14. Winter play vehicle
15. Defrost
16. Whip
17. Break stone
18. Parrot
19. Fonda in "Grapes of Wrath"
20. Paddle
21. Religious ceremony
22. Indian or Arctic
23. Smooth and soft
25. Alas!
27. Dates
28. Outside
32. S. China seaport
35. Cause friction
36. Every
37. Object worshiped as a god
38. Used informally; very small
39. Egg-shaped
40. Veterans' battleground
41. Metric weight unit
42. Fluid accumulation
43. Saw
45. They __
46. Requests
47. Dawn
51. Woman's garment
54. Regular convex solid with six equal squares as faces
55. Mauna __, Hawaiian volcano
56. Foot
57. So. American aquatic rodent
59. Damn
60. Wager
61. Giver of identity
62. Former ruler of Afghanistan
63. Fermented honey and water
64. Radio talk show host
65. Spice made from nutmeg seed

DOWN

1. Southern part of Lake Peipus
2. Forearm bones
3. Ms. Bailey
4. Data processing (abbr.)
5. Allows
6. Fleshy
7. Old Indian coin
8. Fiddler crabs
9. Kareem's Jabbar's former name
10. Small helmet-like hat
11. Huron or Ontario
12. Continent
13. At what time
21. Alter
22. Monster
24. River in South Africa
25. Present with a bias
26. Subject to chance or change
28. At the front
29. Rescue
30. Burrowing marine mollusk
31. Indian leaf used as writing paper
32. Short
33. Economist, ____ Smith
34. Unconsciousness
35. Goddess of Agriculture
38. Assault vehicle
39. A European river
41. Roman tomb
42. Bulky grayish-brown eagle
44. Landed a fish
45. Red color
47. Highest in degree or quality
48. Tree grown in southern U.S.
49. Type of boom
50. Tidal bore
51. Feign
52. Perfect
53. A tiny amount
54. Inflorescence
57. The brain and spinal cord (abbr.)
58. Grass of Europe and N. Africa
59. Obstruct

Answers



HOROSCOPE

ARIES – March 21/April 20
For too long you've put off dealing with a particularly emotional issue, Aries. However, what happens this week will show you that you can't avoid it forever.

TAURUS – April 21/May 21
Stubborn as you are, Taurus, you tend to prefer the status quo, which is why you won't be too thrilled by what happens this week. Nevertheless, don't fight the tide; go with the flow.

GEMINI – May 22/June 21
Your feathers are ruffled and you're looking for a fight this week, Gemini. Before you take your best shot, make sure you're fighting for something worthwhile.

CANCER – June 22/July 22
If you find yourself disagreeing with a friend this week, it may be wiser to walk away instead of picking a fight. It's a good time to learn a new craft — focus your energy creatively.

LEO – July 23/August 23
In all areas, but especially in romance, you will feel and act with such intensity that no one can resist you this week. Use your power wisely, Leo.

VIRGO – Aug 24/Sept 22
Bad things happen, Virgo. You can't right every wrong in the world. Instead of ranting, comfort the person wronged. They'll appreciate it.

LIBRA – Sept 23/Oct 23
You've been pushing yourself pretty hard lately and you must take what happens this week as a sign that you must slow down. Look for creative ways to balance your life.

SCORPIO – Oct 24/Nov 22
Everyone makes mistakes, Scorpio, even you, so don't be so hard on yourself. After all, what's life but a learning experience. You can grow from this mishap.

SAGITTARIUS – Nov 23/Dec 21
You'll get a rousing reminder that life truly is worth living this week, Sagittarius. In fact, this is one of the most exciting times of the year for you. Don't let anyone talk you out of living your dream!

CAPRICORN – Dec 22/Jan 20
You have things to do, and can ill afford to have others waste your time. You may have to be a bit gruff with friends and colleagues to get the point across, but it's worth it.

AQUARIUS – Jan 21/Feb 18
Some things can't be taken seriously, Aquarius, and it's high time you realize that. All of these distractions only keep you from your goals.

PISCES – Feb 19/March 20
Something has piqued your interest this week, Pisces, but you must fully commit in order to reap the most benefit. Look for an old friend in Friday's crowd. Cancer plays a role.

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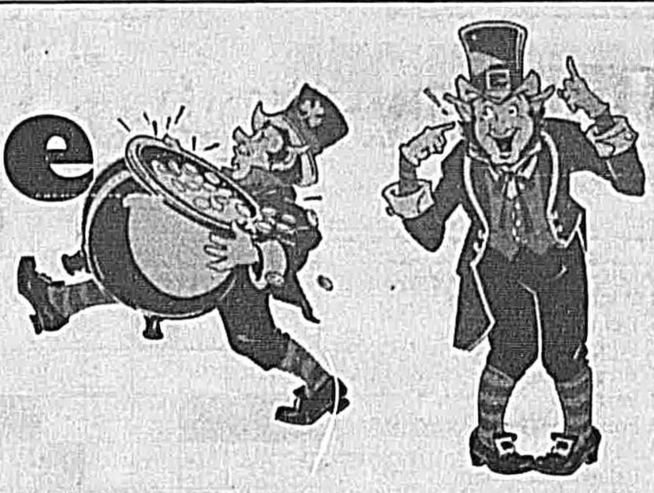


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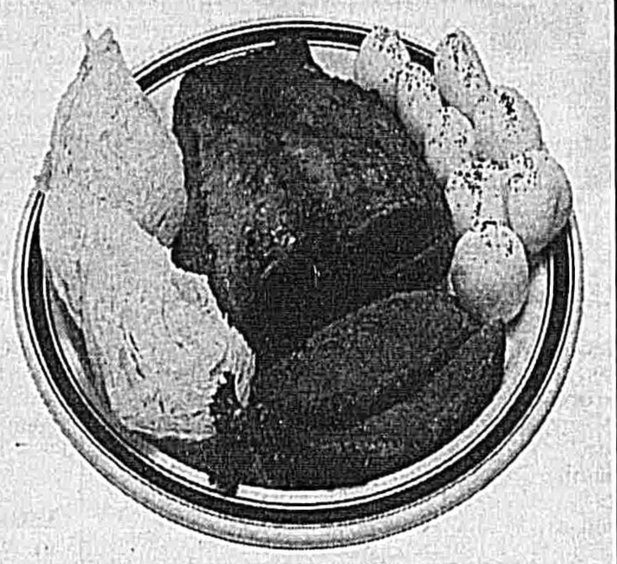
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The Taste of the Irish



Each year, thousands of Irish Americans gather with their loved ones on St. Patrick's Day to share a "traditional" meal of corned beef and cabbage. Though cabbage has long been an Irish food, corned beef only began to be associated with St. Patrick's Day at the turn of the century.

Perfect Corned Beef and Cabbage For St Patrick's Day



- 4 to 5 lb. Corned Beef Brisket
- 1 large onion
- 6 whole cloves
- 1 teaspoon dried thyme
- 8 whole peppercorns
- 1 small bunch parsley
- 1 lb. bag peeled baby carrots
- 3 lb. bag small red potatoes, washed
- 1 head cabbage (about 2 lbs.), quartered and cored

Peel onion and stick with cloves. Put corned beef, onion, parsley, peppercorns and thyme In a large pot and cover with cold water. Cover, bring to a simmer and cook gently until meat is tender, approx. 3 hours. Skim fat from top as it rises during cooking. Add cabbage, potatoes and carrots. Cover and simmer for 20 to 30 minutes until vegetables are cooked. Serve with Horseradish sauce.

Horseradish Sauce
- 1/2 pint Whipping Cream
- 2 tablespoons mayonnaise
- 2 - 4 tablespoons prepared horseradish

Whip cream until it stands in peaks. Fold in mayonnaise and horseradish.

Reuben soup

1/2 cup chopped onion
1/4 cup chopped celery
3 tablespoons butter
1/4 cup all-purpose flour
3 cups water
4 cubes beef bouillon
8 ounces shredded corned beef
1 cup sauerkraut, drained
3 cups half-and-half cream
3 cups shredded Swiss cheese
8 slices rye bread, toasted and cut into triangles

In a large saucepan, cook onion and celery in butter until tender; stir in flour until smooth. Gradually stir in water and bouillon, and bring to a boil. Reduce heat to low, and simmer for 5 minutes.

2. Stir in corned beef, sauerkraut, cream, and 1 cup of the cheese. Cook and stir for 30 minutes or until slightly thickened.

3. Preheat broiler.

4. Ladle soup into 8 ovenproof bowls. Top each serving with a slice of bread and sprinkle 1/4 cup of the cheese on top of each slice of bread. Place in oven under broiler until the cheese melts and lightly browns.

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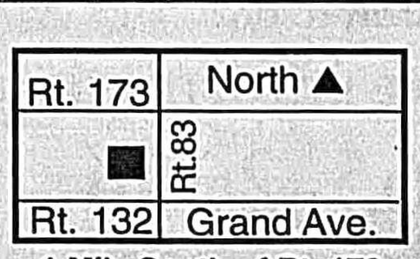


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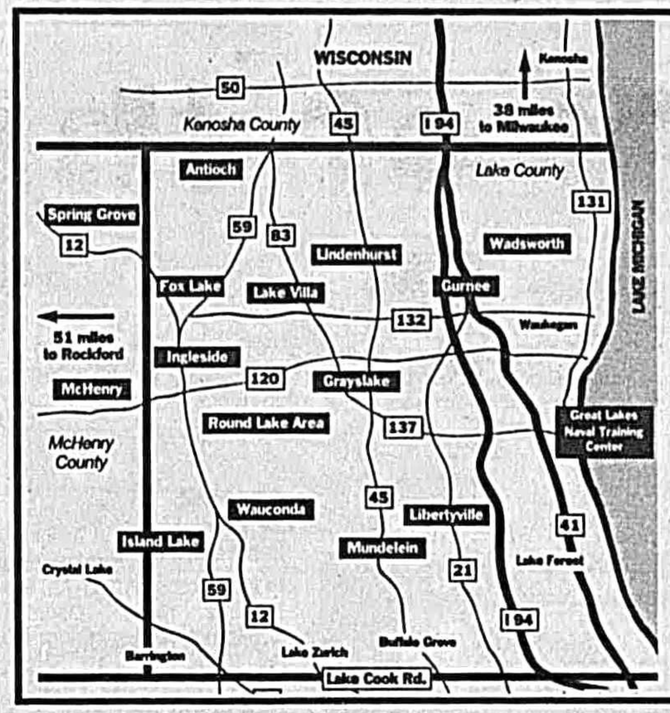
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Lil Mom was rescued from an animal collector. As one of the over 90 cats that were removed, it is understandable that she was slightly skittish and overwhelmed when she first came to Save-A-pet. Receiving so much personal attention (although she would have gladly skipped the medical part!) was something she had never really been accustomed too and yes, she had to admit that it did feel good. Still, slightly uncertain of what her future holds, she would prefer a quiet home with a feline companion or two. So if you already have a cat or two and don't mind adding another one that won't compete for you lap, why not consider Lil Mom or one of our other shy cats.

350 Miscellaneous

FOR SALE (1) 3'x8' double sided lighted box sign & (2) 2'x8' single sided lighted box signs for business. Newly lettered with your business name & number. Paid $4,600 less than 1yr. ago, will sell for $1,750. ALSO 3'x2' indoor/outdoor orange & blue "Open" sign. Self contained all weather box. Paid $500, will sell for $250. (847) 587-7525.

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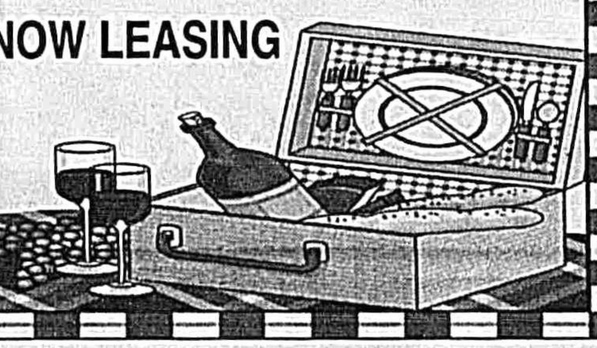
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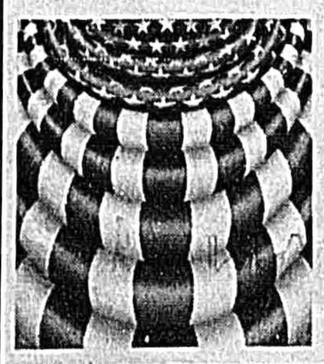
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Village of Vernon Hills
Village of Volo
Village of Hainesville
Village of Wauconda
Village of Lake Zurich
City of Highland Park
City of Waukegan
Village of Lindenhurst
Lake County Chiefs of Police
Lake County Fire Chiefs Association
Fremont Township Highway Commissioner's Office
IBEW LOCAL 150
Bartels Landscape Service
Center Point Properties
GLMV Chamber of Commerce
Am. Public Works Chicago Metro Chapter
Berger Excavating
Excavators, Inc.
Glenbrook Excavating
IL Road & Transportation Builders Association
Lake County Contractors
Lake County Grading Company
Lake County Builders
Lake County Partners
Peter Baker & Son Company
The Alter Group
Transportation Management Association of Lake County
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Shouldn't you join in and get Lake County out of congestion?

Vote YES on March 16th

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Paid for by Lake County Residents for Traffic Relief. A copy of our report is or will be filed with the state.

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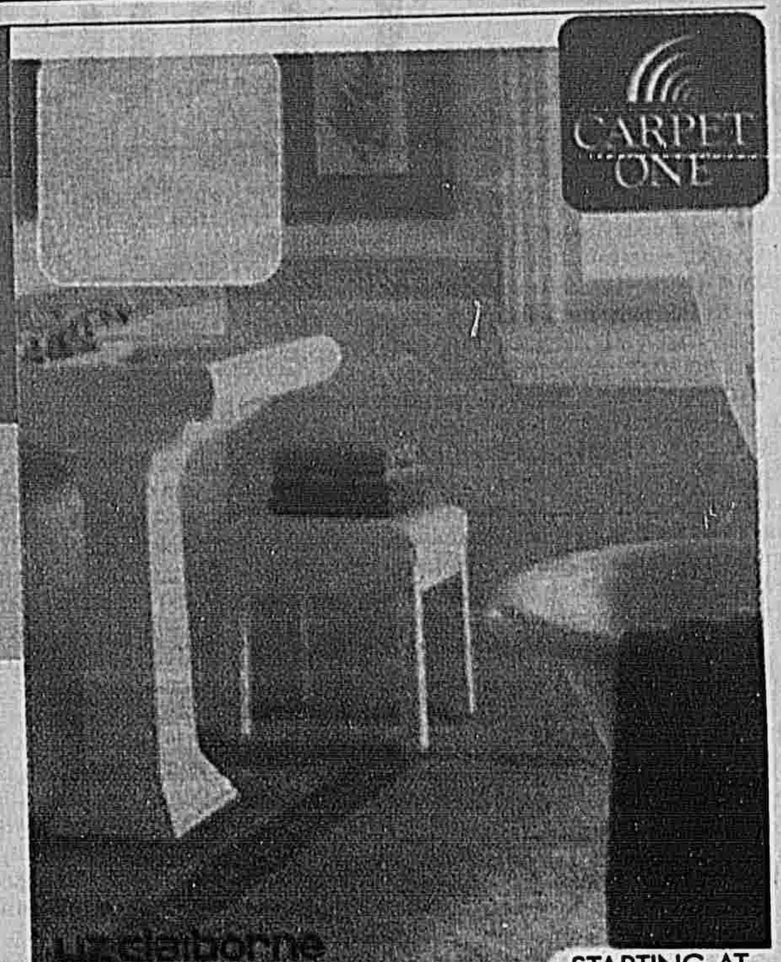
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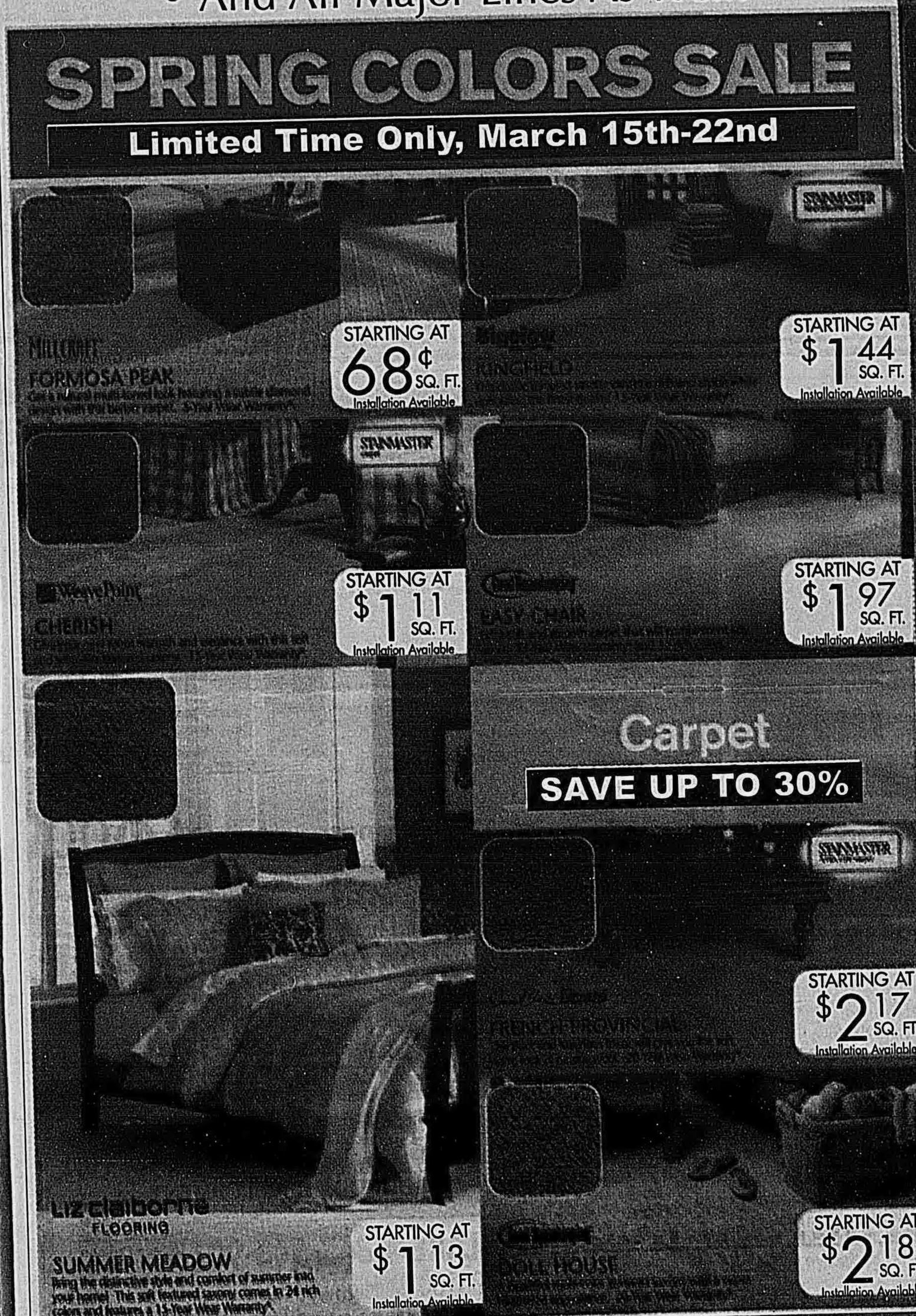
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Letters to the Editor

McKenna for Senate

We need a Senator in D.C. that cares about our communities. We need a Senator in D.C. that is responsive to the needs of the people of Illinois, and we need a Senator who is going to D.C. to serve our interests above their own.

That person is Andy McKenna. For example, Andy McKenna has taken the time to visit the city of Waukegan, he asked about our concerns and then listened. In short, he cares about our community. To me that is proof in the doing: A Republican candidate visiting a democratic stronghold and asking about the concerns of the people and our community.

Torrie Mark Newsome
Assistant State's Attorney – Lake County

Support children

How do we raise children who want to contribute to society if society doesn't support them? How do we create a "community of learners" if voters don't realize that we need support from more than parents to help our schools succeed?

I believe our biggest danger is an uninformed voter. Talk to your neighbors and friends, make sure they understand the issues. Make sure they understand the true cost of this referendum. Vote "YES" on March 16. A quality education is the best deal in town.

Catherine Scott
Antioch Upper Grade Choir Director

Everyone benefits

Your children, home values, and community will benefit as a result of a "YES" vote supporting the Big Hollow School referendum on March 16.

Rapid growth in our school is compromising the quality of education. Appropriate student/teacher ratio is crucial in obtaining a quality education. Existing buildings will not house the expected occupancy.

The perception of a perception rating can impact the sale of a home. I know this because I am a Realtor. Like many people, I do not want my real estate taxes to increase, but I see no way to avoid this important obligation. For those without children I would hope you feel strongly about protecting your main investment—your home.

Laura Baron
McHenry

It takes a village

As current president and member of the Millburn District 24 board of education for eight years, I have seen the district grow from a small country school 300 to a large, suburban school serving 1,330 with a tradition of excellence.

Millburn has been frugal with taxpayer revenue. At $6,200 per pupil expenditure. The district ranks next to lowest in Lake County 278 of 310 in six collar counties and $2,000 less than the state average. Test scores remain among the highest in the state while class size remains low.

The board and parents have planned for the future, purchasing land in advance of home building. Impact fees charged are among the highest in the county. High interest debt has been eliminated. Tax Anticipation Warrants, a Millburn tradition, have been eliminated.

Millburn now needs the support of voters. There are two questions of the March 16 ballot. The building bond referendum will not cause an increase in the tax rate. The second ballot question asks for a 53 cent increase in the Education Fund. This is needed to pay for new staff and curricular materials. Voters support is necessary to continue the tradition that has benefited thousands of students and increased property values.

Jim McKeown
President, Millburn BOE

Investment in future

I am a retiree, 66, on a pension who has never voted against a school referendum. I have voted for the building of six high schools in District 214, Hersey, Wheeling, Buffalo Grove, Rolling Meadows, Elk Grove, Forest View, and elementary schools in Palatine 15. One of the first questions asked of me when selling a house is the quality of the local schools. I discovered a basic truth: good Schools sell houses.

District 38 has grown tremendously in the 12 years I have lived in Ingleside. We must be prepared for growth. The Board's building plans for the district are sound and farseeing. We must be prepared for growth. The board's building plans are sound and farseeing. Look at the moderate tax increase as an investment.

Ken Bates
Ingleside

New tax unnecessary

Every new housing development, and there is many, that has and still is springing up, is contributing to the districts building fund. Each development that is built is required to contribute directly into the building fund, and that cost to the developer is passed on to the family purchasing a property. Add to that, the capital that should be received from the sale of the existing school's property at Routes 134 and 12. This is very hot commercial real estate that will bring in top dollar. Our property taxes are already outrageous. Big Hollow should have the money they need to build without bankrupting their local families. Please vote and vote "NO" to their request at this next election.

Joe Popp
Ingleside

Top candidate

There is another candidate running for office of Lake County coroner. She is a nurse, an educator, an innovative program developer and the best wife in the world. I have known her for 27 years and have seen the hard work ethic, perseverance and enthusiasm that is a part of my wife. We have worked together to accomplish our family and career goals. We have supported each other through tough times and easy times.

I have seen my wife of many years face times of hardship and pain with the same positive attitude and hard work that is part of her character. The same character traits make her the top candidate for the office. She has accomplished much and continues to do so while mentoring many people. Not only is her attitude one of a winner but her care and compassion make her the perfect fit for the office.

Randolph W. Schild
Mundelein

Don't shoot messenger

Is Big Hollow School running out of space? You bet! Is it fair to increase property taxes to local residents to support the new residential developments that are creating this explosion of students? NO, absolutely not! It is not fair but it is the state system of funding with which we have to operate. An excellent insight can be learned by a recent event that is representative of the problem at hand.

The condition of school funding in Illinois is pathetic. Where else can a developer come in and for every unit they build the existing community must subsidize both construction of the new building AND pay for the daily operating expenses as well! It is simply untenable,.however, these are the current laws we must operate within.

We urge everyone in the community to join us in guaranteeing a quality education for our children. If you need more information or would like to join us in the long-term fight visit the Citizen?s Advisory Committee website at www.bighollow-cac.org.

Boyce Carsella, Jr.
Big Hollow Citizen's Advisory Committee

Support counts

I fully intend to support Bonnie Thomson Carter, our county board representative and Forest Preserve president.

As our county board member, Bonnie has given her assistance to the EPA on issues regarding contaminated wells in our unincorporated areas, assisted homeowners in funding for the testing of these wells, works hard to oppose over-development that causes crowded schools, roads and increases our taxes, and has been instrumental in extending miles of bile trails connecting Wauconda and Grant Township to the Des Plaines River Trail.

She has done her homework on issues with home developments in our community and is working to insure steps are taken to comply with regulations before projects are finalized.

Yes, she does get involved and thank God for that. I respect and admire a person who looks into the problems, seeks solutions and works hard for the community she serves. Support works two ways, think of that when you go to the polls.

Rosemary Mers
Wauconda

Carter working hard

I have had a number of phone conversations and personal meetinsg with Bonnie Thomson Carter and found her to be wholly dedicated to her constituents. In addition to listening to my concerns about an adjacent development in corporate Wauconda, she attended and spoke out at several Wauconda board meetings asking the village to be sensitive to Hillcrest Subdivision in unincorporated Lake County. She investigated engineering and traffic issues and brought along Lake County staff members.

Some homes in Hillcrest have vinyl chloride in their well water. Carter immediately involved the county staff, held a public meeting and took action to get our well tested at no cost to us. She contacted Congressman Phil Crane, who was able to obtain EPA funds to pay for expensive testing. We are waiting for the results and trust Bonnie to help us again.

Jan McKay
Wauconda

Crane right for job

Congressman Phil Crane is the right man for the job when it comes to representing the people of the 8th District. Lake County is a better place to live with Congressman Crane as one of our representatives. He has made a difference by securing substantial amounts of federal funding for Lake County.

This funding aided in protecting our precious environment and water resources. While Crane's major contribution has been the Des Plaines Flood Control & Ecosystem Restoration project, Crane has also been instrumental in working to restore many of the county's watersheds. Crane has worked for many years with members of the Illinois delegation to secure hundreds of millions of dollars for METRA, which has funded the expansion of the North Central Line that ends in Antioch. Crane has also worked to improve the efficiency of local government by securing funding for the Lake County

John H. Nickels



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DEVELOPMENT
I will work for good commercial development to provide a tax base to **support our quality of life** with good schools, libraries and government services. I will work to **control residential development.** I will make **developers pay a fair share** of all impacts on our schools, libraries and county services.

TRANSPORTATION
The County Board has been working for 5 years on tax increase legislation for roads but our congestion has soared. I will **advance the construction of Route 53** and improvements to state and county roads without tax increases.

TAXES
Lake County taxpayers will pay over 1.3 BILLION dollars in property taxes this year. That is enough! **I will oppose all additional taxes.** I support smart economic and commercial development to provide the tax dollars and jobs for a great quality of life in Lake County. **I support smart commercial taxes** to keep our schools properly funded and **taxes off the backs of homeowners.**

FOREST PRESERVE
I support separating the Lake County Forest Preserve and County Board to avoid the conflicts of interest and to save tax dollars. **I love Independence Grove** on Buckley Road in our district but oppose more elitist golf courses for the millionaires in Lake Forest, Highland Park at For Sheridan. **I support more recreational amenities,** ball fields, and picnic areas for families, using the money the Forest Preserve has stockpiled and is already on our tax bills.

JOHN H. NICKELS for LAKE COUNTY BOARD DISTRICT 11

Paid for by Nickels for the Citizens. A copy of our report is on file (or will be) available for purchase from the County Clerk, Waukegan, IL

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Letters to the Editor

Integrated Criminal Justice Information System, which provides our emergency personnel with the technology to better communicate with one another.

Crane has been a leader in many legislative efforts in Washington over the years. This latest initiative is to broaden the use of Health Savings Accounts, which can benefit more than 70,000 residents of Lake County who currently are without health insurance. Reward his work by voting for Crane March 16.

Suzi Schmidt
Lake County Board chairman

Dyer negative

I am writing in response to the letter to the editor sent by Anita Dyer regarding the recent SMC study of the Sequoit Creek Watershed. It appears that Ms. Dyer is guilty of hyperbole in her statement that the effect of the study on the Antioch Industrial District would be catastrophic. Catastrophic events include events such as the loss the Columbia space shuttle or the events of Sept. 11.

A decrease in property values and/or the need to purchase flood insurance, although certainly not desirable, hardly is catastrophic. Ms. Dyer may not be familiar with the process that SMC went through to create the watershed plan. There were 12 meetings that were conducted while the plan was being developed. The Village of Antioch was a member of the committee and participated in those meetings and the development of the plan. While it may be that the floodplain map was not accurate, I attended the public hearing where it was first presented (and at which a number of village trustees, the then village engineer and the village attorney were also present) and SMC clearly stated at that meeting that the floodplain map was still under review.

Perhaps if the village had not raised the alarm bell about the yet to be finalized plan, the need to spend the $10,000 would not have materialized. It appears that Ms. Dyer is accusing Judy Martini of not serving the best interests of her constituents. Ms. Martini was at that same public hearing and raised a number of concerns from the beginning about the entire study, not just what pertained to the village. As a township resident, I appreciate having a County Board member who considers the needs of ALL her constituents, not just those who live in the village of Antioch. The Sequoit Creek Watershed Plan was developed to protect the entire watershed, including the village. Regardless, Ms. Dyer might do well to refrain from negative campaigning.

Mary Dominiak
Antioch

Question of trust

Jim Farrell is a bright articulate leader who has shown that he can bring people together for a common good, using a professional, reasonable business-like approach. I have listened carefully when he talks about the needs of Lake County and feel, hear and know that his vision is one we can all embrace. I am convinced that he can work with other board members, gain their trust and be a trusted leader. And, believe me, TRUST is the name of the game.

A vote for Jim will be a great change for District 5 because he listens and understands the needs of everyday people in the western part of the county. He is in touch with the people and understands you need your roads improved and businesses encouraged to help you with your property taxes. And, though he, too, values open space as much as the next person, he realizes that working people need jobs, roads and property tax relief so that they can afford to live well and enjoy the open spaces we all love in Lake County.

Barbara Cannon
Gurnee

Time to act

Big Hollow is the fastest growing elementary district in Lake County Increase in students from new residential housing development is expected to continue until at least 2008-10. Student population is projected to be 1,520 by 2008. The present school buildings will be at capacity (1,150 students at 25 per room by the end of the 2005-06 school year).

It takes two years to move students into new buildings from the time a referendum is approved.

The school district had the foresight to buy the 62 acres on Fish Lake Road for a primary building and new campus. The old Route 12 buildings will be sold for revenue. Commercial development will bring in significant property tax. The time to act is now. Unmanageable class size, cutting programs and renting temporary classrooms are not acceptable alternatives.

Boyce Carsella, Jr.
Chairperson, Citizen's Advisory Committee

Make developers pay

I was a member of the Big Hollow School District's Citizens Advisory Board (CAC). Together with other participants we suggested that in order to raise the needed funds for the school the superintendent and the school board should meet with the mayors and developers to recommend an increase in the future impact fees, a slow down in residential building, and an increase in reasonable commercial building in their areas where zoning laws permit. However, the School Board and the Superintendent ruled on going forward with the referendum.

In addition I learned that there is a contingency plan in place if the referendum doesn't pass. In this plan future impact fees and real estate taxes will be used to build and maintain new schools.

The only way to stop this referendum and make the developers and mayors work out a better solution to this problem is to vote NO. Recently in Forbes they listed the top 50 billionaires in Illinois. The first two listed acquired their wealth, in part, by being land developers. A NO vote will force all developers in our area to contribute their fair share to relieve the financial burden on our schools.

Bob Napora
Ingleside

Missing lunch

Imagine your child arriving home from school at 1 p.m. and telling you about their day; a day without lunch, gym, music, and art (these are not idle threats, these are the facts.) And after school? No band, drama, no anything; at least not without a fee. If you don't get out and vote to support the District 46 referendum on March 16, you won't have to imagine these things. They will all be real. Not only that, consider that chances are good of a decrease in your home value

Sue Murrow
District 46 Staff

Homeowner's job

As a resident of District 46 and a grandmother of a child in District 46, I urge everyone to join me in voting YES on both District 46 referenda issues. I was shocked when told that Illinois ranked 48th out of 50 states in State Education Funding. Illinois has left it up to the homeowner to fund their school districts. Within the next seven years District 46 expects 1,250 new children to come into its boundaries.

Marie Reilly
Grayslake

Unstable future

A no vote of District 46 takes our communities to an unstable future. A no vote stripped away so much for our children last spring and I cannot let more slip away again. It would be just too difficult to climb out of that hole. With such a high growth rate in the district combined with extensive boundaries, inadequate state funding and no industrial tax base, what is this district left to do? As a parent, I am entrusted with the education and future of my child and I do not take that responsibility lightly.

Debbie Brown
Grayslake

Where do our children go?

Trailers are certainly a temporary solution to an exponentially increasing problem. I have a fifth grader in the Big Hollow district. When she was in kindergarten, there were two sessions. Now there are five. Last year the district experienced a 27 percent increase in enrollment. There are only two available classrooms in the district. Another large increase of students will occur again, because the housing development in this district continues.

This is not a question of whether the board is fiscally responsible—it is important to note that the Big Hollow school tax rate has increased less than $1 per thousand since 1963. Also, the board came to a creative solution as to how it would reduce the likelihood of having to come back to us for an operations referendum in a few years. That makes me as a taxpayer satisfied that the board is doing good work.

Good schools mean a good resale value to your home. I personally would rather spend some extra tax-deductible dollars for the sake of keeping my property value up.

Jackie Black
Ingleside

Voting for Carter

For the past seven years, Bonnie Thomson Carter has provided excellent representation and leadership on the Lake County Board. I have come to respect Bonnie and admire her integrity. I am proud to call her my friend. No matter what the issue, Bonnie researches and follows through. She does her job. She should be proud of her record. I know I am. I am voting for Bonnie Thomson Carter

Betty Niemi
Ingleside

Find priorities

Let's not blame the current Grade School District 46 board and administration for all our troubles. However, they are there now and as elected officials must practice fiscal responsibility, we need the answer to some questions before we vote to give more of our tax dollars to them. Our main concern—is the quality of education of our children. For the dollars we spend, are we getting top quality?

The school board says they need another school. If so, then it is time for them to tell the taxpayers, "How they can justify closing Lakeview School for three years and renting it to a private school before remodeling it for a multi-million dollar administrative office.

The residents of District 46 have been generous with salary and benefits for our government workers, both teachers and administrators. The report card shows that with an average of 8.3 years teaching experience we pay an average salary of $44,783 with the administrator averaging $97,976. this is for 35 weeks per year work for teachers. The board also provides a $20,000 Term Life Insurance Policy for each of the 229 teachers and a $50,000 policy for the superintendent. Contracts cover other benefits.

With an increase of approximately 20 percent in our property assessments this year, we are encouraging more and more young people to sell their homes and leave town. Don't forget, when you go to the polls to vote, the Grayslake Community Park District is asking for millions of dollars to build ball fields. Where are our priorities.

Mary Jane Lucas
Grayslake

Excellence waning

Like other new Grayslake residents, we chose this community because of its nice neighborhoods, proximity to a Metra station, nearby shopping, and good schools for our children.

Since moving here in 2001, I have seen highways and parks improved, parking added at the train station, retail stores erected, and new subdivisions built. During the same time however, Community Consolidated School District 46 has had to cut teachers and programs.

My children at Avon School have seen their art, music, and PE programs cut in half this year. My Frederick student no longer enjoys classes in art, music, Spanish, and drama. To participate in Frederick's high-quality band programs, we must now pay a $200 fee and provide before-and after-school transportation to rehearsals.

The school day for grades K-4 will end at 12:55 p.m. by eliminating lunch, art, PE, and music. In grades 5-8, band, chorus, and Spanish will be cut.. The Challenge program for our gifted students will also be eliminated, plus many other special services that ensure successful learning.

Once these programs are gone, they may be gone forever unless statewide education funding receives a massive restructuring. Please help District 46 remain a viable educational force in our community by voting yes for increasing the education fund and yes for the school building bond question.

Diane Rarick
Grayslake

Lessened esteem

As a PE teacher I see first hand what a positive impact PE provides for the students. children who may struggle with academics in the classroom might be very successful in PE. when children are successful they gain self-confidence. For some students, PE is a place where they do succeed and can feel great about themselves. I feel that if PE is taken away it will hinder these children's self esteem.

Physical Education provides opportunities for children to work together to accomplish either a goal or task. Learning to work with others is a must if a child wants to be a successful student. This carries over to life when our children enter the working world.

Tammy D. Steinkamp
Woodview teacher

Wasted time

As a former School District 46 board member, I've heard a lot of discussion regarding the flip-flopped positions of the four new board members, Cheryl Davis, Karen Weinert, Keith Surroz, and Sue Facklam concerning the support of the school district's referendum.

It is a fact that during the election year these four members did not support last year's referendum, promising alternative ways to balance our budget and fund the schools. This year they ask you to support the referendum, and ask for the exact same tax increase. It shouldn't surprise anyone when campaign promises are broken. After all this is politics, where certain candidates take any position that will get them elected, even if it is based on misinformation.

What is lost in the referendum discussion is that one year later the same tax increase will only keep our district financially viable for three years. If this community had passed the referendum last year, there would be no need to increase taxes for seven years. In other words, if we are to maintain quality programming in our schools we will have to pay FOUR additional years of higher taxes. Increased taxes that would not have been necessary had the community researched the new board members message of "no need for new taxes."

Neal Takiff
Grayslake

Good investment

The District 46 school board is asking the people

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Letters to the Editor

of this community to give up $500-$1000 per household of their hard earned money to save our schools from further cuts. We're also asked to approve bonds to build another school and told that the approval of these bonds will not raise the tax rate. I understand the underlying math, but I don,t think the community as a whole understands that a confused mind will always say no.

As for the rate hike. We spend about $7,600 per student The average in the country is about $9,500. Our neighboring communities generally spend more than we do. Unfortunately in our community we still haven't developed our opportunities to bring in more business and we won't/can't charge impact fees on the new developments. Think of it all as a 401k or IRA. The money you pay now will increase your homes value in the future. It also helps build our children's future. Sounds like a good investment to me.

Christopher Thielen
Grayslake

Balanced request

The Gurnee school board has crafted a fair and balanced referendum request that I hope everyone will consider. This referendum request is for half the amount of the previous request. Further, the board also made great financial decisions to balance the budget, controlling or even cutting costs that didn't affect our children's education. For example, to address the growing capacity of our district, the board remodeled an older school for just over $530,000 instead of building a new school, that could easily have cost $12-15 million.

Edwin Paff
Gurnee

Board cares

By its actions, the Gurnee District 56 School Board has shown that it cares about taxpayer concerns over excessive spending. The School Board, working with teachers, taxpayer advocates and parents, have balanced the budget through prudent financial decisions, and cutbacks in spending. Teacher, administrator and staff positions have been eliminated, and no new positions have been created. To address the needs of a growing student population for space, the School Board refurbished the old Gurnee Grade School for about $500,000, instead of incurring the greater cost of building a new school building for about $12-$14 million.

The District will collect approximately $477,000 in new revenue this year, even with the tax cap. However, due to growth in student population from communities outside of Gurnee that do not collect impact fees, increases in health care costs, and unfunded government mandates, education costs will temporarily exceed increases in revenue. Also, there is increased demand for Special and Bilingual education programs, which are mandated and cannot be cut. For example, even with no increase in school staff, current financial obligations due to the above factors will cost the District an additional $593,861. The School Board has controlled the costs over which it has control.

Peter S. Karlovics
Gurnee

Different question

The District 56 School Board has opened Gurnee Grade School in an older refurbished building instead of spending 12-14 million dollars on a new school facility. It has balanced the budget during a tough economic time, not running deficits that would later hurt the District. Instead of cutting extracurricular programs the board implemented user fees. And lastly they negotiated a fair labor contract that considered both the teachers needs, and those of the taxpayers.

This referendum proposal for March 16 is different from previous requests, and it is needed.

Richard E. Conley
Gurnee

Willing to pay

The Gurnee schools have listened to the community and made a large and painful effort to compromise with taxpayers on this issue. Cuts made in spending have resulted in larger class sizes and an increase in student-teacher ratio (because of the elimination of teacher and staff positions), decreased support to the remaining dedicated teachers and staff, outdated and worn textbooks, and a decline in student performance.

No one wants to pay more in taxes, myself included. However, I will be taking responsibility to support this referendum. A compromise has been made. I am willing to pay the extra $16 per month to support the educational quality of the children in the Gurnee schools.

Karen Julian
Waukegan

Reasons for support

The growth in Gurnee District 56 student population over the past four years has been the district's highest percentage. Overcrowded classrooms are just one of the important reasons why you should support the referendum. If the quality of District 56 education decreases, the neighborhoods within our district will become a less desirable place to live. Eventually, this will decrease the value of our homes not only hurting the families with school-aged children, but everyone.

Ted and Heidi Johnson
Wadsworth

Changes mind

Since the previous referendum failed the school board has balanced the budget, remodeled an older school instead of building a new one, and cut staff. The Board has also implemented user fees, instead of cutting important extracurricular programs.

With all of the cost cutting, the school board has convinced me, a former "no voter," to vote YES.

Brian Ford
Gurnee

Crane knows constituents

As a longtime resident of Antioch and as a State Representative, I have come to realize the strong leadership and dedication Congressman Phil Crane has shown towards his constituents throughout his years representing us in Washington.

Crane has worked countless hours in conjunction with state, county and local officials to meet our needs as a community. He has worked with colleagues to secure hundreds of millions of dollars for METRA, which has funded the expansion of the North Central Line that ends in Antioch. This funding is crucial as it doubles the amount of trains that operate on the line, and lessens the amount of time we have to wait on the platform, which is especially important in the winter months.

Environmental restoration has also been a priority for Congressman Crane. It is crucial that we retain his strong leadership in Washington. Vote Crane on March 16.

JoAnn D. Osmond
State Representative 61st District

Classrooms needed

District 41 school board is considering what type of new school to add to the district. Options include a new K-6 building, a new 5/6 building and a new 7/8 building (with Palombi becoming a 5/6 school). The board also will be considering whether to add classrooms to the already overcrowded Thompson Elementary School. I urge all Thompson parents to let Dr. Anderson and the board know that Thompson school needs new classrooms. The money and space to build these classrooms already exists, but the board could vote to take it to help pay for a new school. In the meantime, Thompson School would have to sit with no classrooms for Art, Music and gifted, in addition to increasing class sizes.

David Hawksworth
Round Lake Beach

Crane—environmentalist?

While many of the environment groups give the Congressman low-marks on their environmental scorecards, they do not consider the most important issue—What the member actually does for the environment. In his tenure in Congress, Crane has taken a common sense approach when it comes to protecting our environment. This approach revolves around bringing home federal dollars to protect, preserve and restore our local environment.

A perfect example of this approach is Crane's work with the Village of Johnsburg and the Fox River. The Fox River provides recreation for 8 million people, drinking water for 200,000 people and supports 48 nature preserves. The unfortunate reality is that the river is listed as "threatened" in Section 303 of the Clean Water Act by the State and the U.S. EPA and is listed as the seventh highest endangered river on the American Rivers 1999 national list. To help restore the Fox River, Crane has been able to secure roughly $3 million dollars over the last four years to assist the Village of Johnsburg in building a wastewater treatment plant. Through his initiative, Crane has been able to stop 300 million gallons of raw untreated wastewater from flowing into the Fox River each year. I believe Congressman Phil Crane's initiative to restore the Fox River is what we need from our elected officials when it comes to environmental protection. Thank you Congressman Crane for being the environmentalist we need in the 8th District.

Dennis Ansell
Johnsburg

Time for change

It's time for a few heads to roll in the Lake County Forest Preserves District. Let's begin at the top with the Forest Preserve President, Bonnie Thompson Carter and the Executive Director, Steven Messerli. Under their direction the Forest Preserve District has lost sight of prairies, woodlands and wetlands. The District is fast becoming a Forest Preserve Enterprise System of Parks. The question all voters should be asking is who started the "cycle of catering to special interest groups?"

Demand that your Lake County Forest Preserve Commissioners be accountable. Tell them you want to know where the money goes. Tell them to spend no more on studies and additional marketing employees. And above all, tell them to redirect their sights on prairies, woodlands, and wetlands!

Grace M. Vogt
Grayslake

$90-an-hour to teach?

That is what taxpayers are looking at if the Woodland School District teachers percent salary increases over each of the next 3 years. Looks like the union's $5 million contribution to Springfield politicians last fall is beginning to pay off.

Unfortunately for taxpayers there is no "top" for teachers' salaries. In District 50,s case no less than 51 teachers made more than the $64,000 "top" and in fact the highest paid received more than a $4,000 per year increase last year alone. That puts the

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Not Business As Usual

Sometimes a dime means a lot more than ten cents. Like Congressmen and Senators turning on a dime for the special interests. You know, they all talk a good game but then the Congressmen and Senators take the special interest money. And then nothing gets done to lower healthcare costs, or make prescription drugs affordable.

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Authorized and paid for by Hull for Senate.

Letters to the Editor

top teacher at over $75,000 now and so at 11 percent per year that will put her at about $102,000 per year or $11,000 per month in the third year. I think a good definition of political corruption is this: a system where billions of tax dollars are used to make millionaires out of a group of politically connected part-time public employees while leaving food pantry shelves empty, homeless shelters un-built and 2 million Illinois citizens without health insurance. Too bad hungry people in Illinois do not have $5 million to give to Springfield politicians—maybe if they did they wouldn't be hungry.

William N. Zettler
Mundelein

Carter support

We would like to remind the voters in the District 5 area of Lake County about all the support Bonnie Thomson Carter gave us during our fight against the power plant building in Volo. Through her efforts and good advice we are all breathing cleaner air. She deserves another term on the County Board. She never backs down from a battle. We are happy to support her and hope many voters will join us.

Alfred and Caroline Kohler
Volo

District at crossroads

Antioch Elementary District 34 stands at a crossroads, and on March 16 the voters will decide which way our schools and our property values will go.

If the Educational Fund referendum passes, we can look forward to seeing our children continue to receive an excellent education at the lowest possible cost from the most frugal school district in Lake County. The district will be able to maintain high educational quality while accommodating the rapidly increasing enrollments that come with the area's population growth.

If voters reject the referendum, massive, but necessary, budget cuts ordered by the Board of Education will take effect. These are not scare tactics. The cuts have already been ordered and can't be restored unless the referendum passes. It is just simple arithmetic. Educational services cost money, and the district won't have enough money to afford these services.

For my wife and I, and for many other people who have studied the facts carefully, the choice is clear. Pardon me for being so blunt, but there really is no valid argument to be made against the referendum this year. Not only is it the right thing to do, but from a cost-benefit standpoint it is in the economic self interest of every homeowner in District 34 to vote YES. When $2 million vanish from next year's budget, followed by another $1.5 million in cuts from the 2005-2006 budget, not only will our children suffer a terrible educational loss, but our property values will also take a direct and immediate hit to the tune of many thousands of dollars, and that will far outweigh the few hundred dollars per year that the referendum's tax increase would cost.

E. McKenzie
Antioch

Shoot us straight

Over the last couple of months we've seen a true campaign unfold in the 5th District for Lake County Board by Jim Farrell and County Board member Bonnie Thomson Carter. As a resident of Valley Lakes for the last four years, we have watched Bonnie Thomson Carter in action and followed her efforts. However, she has come up short in many ways in fulfilling constituents needs and wants in the 5th District. She has always been a day late and a dollar short in working towards the goals of the community. She always portrays herself as swooping in and saving the day—i.e the peaker plant.

Bonnie, you provided us a list of the registered voters in the Greater Round Lake area that would have been affected by the peaker plant. It was the people of Round Lake and the Greater Round Lake area that walked, talked and worked to get the peaker plant out of town. You and Mike Thirtle take the credit for getting the peaker plant out of town. We think it is important for everyone to know that Mike Thirtle lost to Jim Farrell for the Precinct Committeeman position in District 5. This newspaper published a letter from Mr. Thirtle several weeks ago in which he spoke of why we the voters should choose Bonnie over Jim. We think this newspaper should have mentioned that Mike no longer lives in District 5. He moved out of the county about a year later after losing the Precinct Committeeman position to Jim but he is still putting Jim Farrell down on the issues. There are several issues at stake and have been at contention for the last eight years Bonnie has served.

Vote for Jim Farrell. Choose the Republican ballot and vote on March 16 for a man who truly has fresh Ideas for this District.

John and Jennifer Miles
Valley Lakes, Round Lake

Back compromise

District 56 has done a great job in controlling spending and balancing the school budget. Teachers have sacrificed larger salary increases. Parents are now paying user fees for their children's participation in extra curricular activities. I ask the voters to contribute to this compromise effort. There are a great deal of outside pressures moving education costs upward, including an increasing student population and unfunded government mandates. The school board has also listened to the concerns of taxpayers and cut the referendum request in half.

Kimberly Brown
Gurnee

Support Churchill

Fernando Salazar moved here from Cook County and, judging from the slop he poured into my mailbox this weekend, brought a particularly noxious strain of negative campaigning with him.

The fact is that our State Representative, Robert W. Churchill, has an 18-year record of serving central Lake County with integrity in the General Assembly. He's fought for us for controls on local property taxes and expansion of local road improvements. He's worked to protect our wetlands and restock the Avon Township Food Pantry. He's someone we know and can trust.

Only Salazar, fueled by thousands of dollars of pro-abortion money, is striving to satisfy his ambition by tearing down another. Haven't we had enough of Salazar's style of politics? The best way to answer is to vote for Robert Churchill for State Representative from the Grayslake-Gurnee-Lake Villa area.

Peter F. Gallagher, Jr.
Grayslake

Support our schools

The Mayor and the majority of the Village Board of Trustees for the Village of Antioch support the education of our youth. The schools are a major part of the foundation of our community. In order to keep a community strong, it is essential to have schools that can provide a good strong education for our youth. Without strong schools property values fall and your community suffers. Education is the key to success and the strength of our community.

Please vote yes on March 16 to support our community and our schools.

Antioch Mayor Taso Maravelas,
Antioch trustees Dorothy Larson, Larry Hanson,
Barbara Porch, Scott Pierce, Mary Turner

WTHS worth paying for

I am writing this letter in response to "WTHS faces challenge in referendum" article in the Feb. 27-March 4, 2004 issue of the Gurnee Press.

I'm not quite sure what Mr. Shepherd means by "I was part of the facilities committee and the decks were so stacked." The committee was comprised of a mix of about 30 parents, teachers, and community members, with no one group dominating the makeup. In order to vote on the recommendation, a person had to attend at least three of the four meetings, specifically to keep some group from manipulating the vote.

The second statement I find puzzling is that the targeted improvements are a "wish list" on the part of the board. The committee, not the board, voted on what improvements to recommend, and a 2/3 majority was required for something to be accepted.

First, defeating the facilities referendum means that the board will not have funds for critically needed facilities improvements.

Second, use of an advisory referendum for such a purpose would be highly unusual.

Third, WTHS has a serious educational fund deficit. Reducing the education fund deficit is critical to raising the district's bond rating, and allowing it to get a better interest rate for the facilities bonds, thereby saving taxpayers money over the next twenty years.

Some would try to frame every referendum in terms of a single question: "Do you want your taxes to increase?" There are other important questions, such as "Do you want quality schools?" No one likes to pay higher taxes, but I believe supporting excellence at WTHS is well worth the cost of a pizza or two per year.

John Saunders
Co-chairman, 2003 WTHS Facilities Committee

Vote for schools

On March 16, voters will be asked two questions involving CCSD 46. I am all too aware of how a no vote stripped away so much for our children last spring and I cannot let more slip away again. It would be just too difficult to climb out of that hole. With such a high growth rate in the district combined with extensive boundaries, inadequate state funding and no industrial tax base, what is this district left to do? As a parent, I am entrusted with the education and future of my child and I do not take that responsibility lightly. I will vote YES and I implore the entire District 46 community to do the same. We just have too much to lose.

Debbie Brown
Grayslake

Another Choice for coroner

I feel that Sophia M. Schild is the best candidate for Coroner. She is a person that exhibits qualities that far exceed the requirements needed to fulfill this pAnother Choice for Coroner

I feel that Sophia M. Schild is the best candidate for Coroner. She is a person that exhibits qualities that far exceed the requirements needed to fulfill this position. She is a Registered Nurse with over 25 years of experience in the healthcare field. Dr. Schild has developed mentoring programs for high school students, and developed cost containment programs for healthcare organizations. She has also contributed to the knowldge of her fellow Nurses directly and through her writing. Ms. Schild is one of the most caring people that I know and I believe that she would bring that same care and compassion to the Office of Coroner. Please Vote on March 16th. Vote for care and Compassion. Vote for Sophia M. Schild.

Maria E. Somarriba
Lake Zurich

Our children are our future

Our future is dependent upon how we educate our children. I am asking for everyone's support of the Big Hollow, District 38, Building Referendum.

Our community has grown tremendously over the past few years. With that growth comes positive and negative changes. A main negative change is the impact the growth has on the school system. Sure there are more tax dollars coming in, but they in no way cover all the additional children we need to educate. Most importantly, where do we put all the children? The small amount received from impact fees do not come close to covering the costs associated with new buildings, which is the only way the schools can utilize the money. The impact fees in our area are among the lowest and our school administration have no influence in determining the amount.

Our children are our future. Let's make it a successful future, one with a strong education and community support. Please vote YES on March 16.

Susan K. Thandupurakal
Big Hollow School District 38

New referendum

Gurnee District 56 has a new referendum request on the ballot.

It is not the same as the previous referendum. The new request was developed as a result of listening to taxpayers and developing a compromise referendum proposal. The new referendum is one-half of the previous referendum requests.

District 56 has put new cost cutting measures in place, and is working to keep new spending at a minimum. However, even with increase fiscal responsibility, the District cannot meet the additional financial burdens of a growing student population and unfunded government mandates.

I ask the voters to take a new look at this compromise District 56 referendum proposal. It is the way we can work toward meeting the new challenges of a more diverse school population, while minimizing the impact of those challenges upon taxpayers.

Please vote YES on District 56.

Doretha Johnson
Gurnee

Come to compromise

Compromise is one way people with different opinions can come together to make a better community. In Gurnee District 56, people from around the community have come together around a new referendum proposal that is in the best interest of all people in the community.

The Gurnee District 56 has worked hard to keep the

Grief Support Groups Organizing Now for Lake County Residents



Palliative CareCenter & Hospice of the North Shore provides a safe, non-judgmental outlet for people who are grieving to meet with others experiencing similar loss.

All groups begin Monday, March 22 and meet for eight sessions. Registration is required.

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Daytime Adult Loss Support Group
Facilitator: Anne Ryan, LCSW
1:00 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.
Brentwood North,
3705 Deerfield Rd. in Riverwoods

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Facilitator: Anne Ryan, LCSW
7:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.
PCCHNS' Lake Cty. office,
906 S. Milwaukee Avenue in Libertyville

Call (847) 467-7423 for more information or to register.

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FROM PAGE A1
DIST. 14


Martini


Blake


Merkel-Dyer

up for us before SMC."

Larson concurred and added that she Martini had a record of doing what is best for the community.

Blake reiterated previous statements that he thinks it is time for a change.

"I want voters to ask themselves if they think they are better off now than they were 10 years ago," he said. "Unfortunately, I don't think we are in better shape. There are politics and policies that need changing, and we're ready for it."

Merkel-Dyer, who is endorsed by Mark Ring, Steve Smouse, Kevin Schoudel, Rich Coles and Jim Fields, said she was very happy to have been endorsed by these people because of their positions within the community.

"Mark Ring (Antioch Township Highway Commissioner) and Steve Smouse (Antioch Township Supervisor) are people who work with District 1 residents on a day-to-day basis. They know that I'm a dedicated, hands-on person with a work ethic that doesn't stop," she said.

Merkel-Dyer said she believes a louder voice is needed in addition to forward thinking.

She said, "Too often people are caught up with today and need to plan for tomorrow."

Martini said she had chose to run for re-election because she loves her district and she loves her job.

"I've always had Antioch's and the district's best interest at heart," she said. "I'm a local businesswoman, and my son went to school here; I am very vested in the area."

DIST. 34

taxes that go to the district from a $200,000 home only covers about 25 percent of the cost to educate one child. The proposed increase averages to about $18 per month for a home valued at $150,00 and $31 a month for a home valued at $250,000.

Hunt said the district would be $45,000 in the red at the end of this school year. Had the board of education not voted to cut a multitude of programs and reduce staff and services, that number would have jumped significantly.

If the referendum fails, $2 million will be cut from the 2004-05 school year, and an additional $1.4 million for the following year.

The board of education took positive action on the budget reduction committee's proposal that includes cutting all of the "exploratories" offered at the Antioch Upper Grade School (AUGS), eliminating 10 teaching positions. Exploratories include art, foreign language, band, choir, journalism, tech ed, consumer ed, computer ed, drama, study skills and the gifted program.

Sports, sports transportation and all extracurricular activities will be cut at all levels.

At the elementary (lower grade) level, the gifted programs such as music and choir and the art coordinator will be eliminated.

A 33-40 percent reduction in custodial care has been approved.

There will be a cut back in the amount of services provided by social workers. The number of school nurses will be reduced, causing the district's schools to share nurses.

Library aides will be eliminated. Fourth- and fifth-graders will lose band.

Administrators will have their salaries frozen, and one of three assistant principal positions could be eliminated.

Additionally, there will be an increase in

RE ELECT



JUDY MARTINI

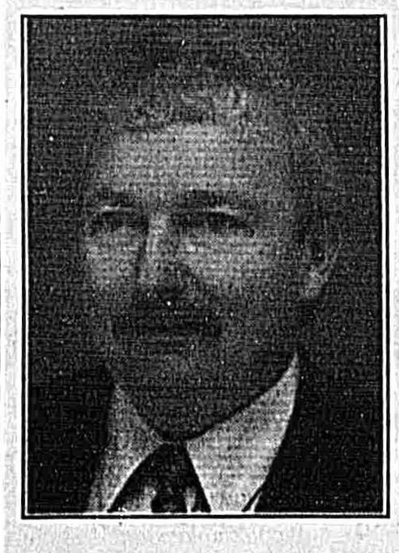
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A copy of our report is available from County Clerk
18 N. County St. Waukegan, IL 60085

ELECT
Wayne
BLAKE
FOR
COUNTY BOARD – DIST. 1



"I live and work in the community and care deeply about the future of District 1. My twelve years of experience working with federal, state and local governments gives me the understanding needed to take District 1 issues to the County Board level."

Sincerely,

Wayne Blake

Wayne Blake was raised in Lake County, Illinois and has been a resident of District 1 since 1972. He operates his family's local well drilling business which was established in 1967. Wayne has been married for 20 years and has three children.

Wayne has been a Fox Waterway Agency Director for 12 years. He was instrumental in utilizing innovative dredging techniques, establishing both better navigable waterways and wetland habitat. His community involvement includes:

★ Ensure District 1 receives its share of county efforts.
★ Support of high quality, not quantity, development.
★ Promote recreation and tourism while maintaining the integrity of the Lake Region.

★ Member/Sponsor Ducks Unlimited
★ Member of Moose Lodge 525
★ Member Illinois Assoc. of Groundwater Professionals
★ Past President of Loon Lake Sportsmen's Assoc.
★ Past President Loon Lakes Management Assoc.

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41040 N. Ridge Circle, Antioch, IL 60002
Phone: 847-395-8255

ELECT Wayne BLAKE FOR COUNTY BOARD – DIST. 1

Sponsored by Citizens for Wayne Blake, 41040 N. Ridge Circle, Antioch, IL 60002. A copy of our report is/will be available for purchase from the Lake County Clerks Office, Waukegan, IL.

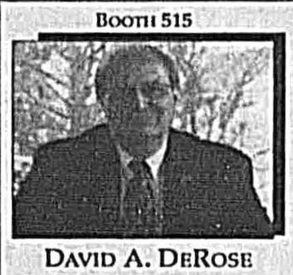
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Schedule of Events

Saturday - March 27th

9:30 am	Navy Band to perform at ribbon cutting ceremony
10:00 am	Doors Open
4:00 pm	Show Closes

Saturday - March 27th

8:00 am - Noon	Lions Club Pancake Breakfast
10:00 am	Doors Open
4:00 pm	$5000 Chamber Buck Drawing

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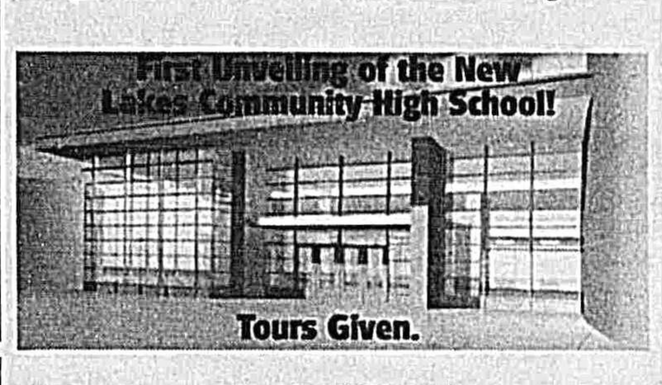
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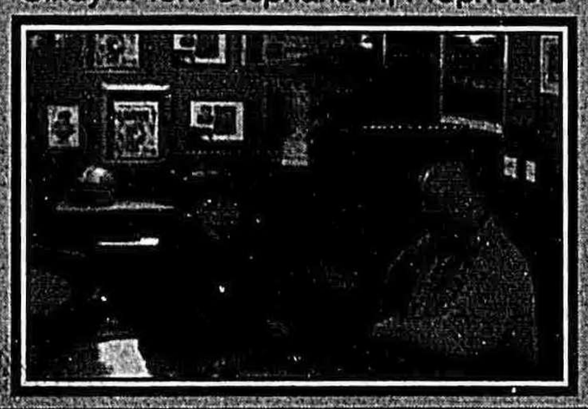


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